
OSAMU TEZUKA
BIG X
VOL. 1

OSAMU TEZUKA'S

BIG X Vol 1


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Big X (I)

In 1945, Nazi Germany, in an effort to turn back the tide of battle against the Allied Forces, was planning to perfect three new weapons, the rocket bomb V-2, the death-ray and Big X, a medicine which would swell the cells of all living beings to several times their former size. Researches in the new weapons were engaged in by Engels and Prof. Asagumo of Japan. Asagumo, who feared that the results of the researches would be utilized as tools of war, sews in the stomach of his son Shigeru, the cards containing the method of manufacturing the new medicine on the pretense that he was operating on his son for appendicitis.
Twenty years elapse after the termination of the war and Shigeru grows up to become a professor, marries and begets a son Akira. The remnants of the former Nazi Germany were planning to resurrect their old glory by forming a secret society called "Nazi League," and conquer the world once again. The fact of the matter, however, was that Shigeru's wife was none other than a woman spy of the Nazi League. Shigeru falls victim to real appendicitis this time and the secret cards discovered in his stomach falls in the hand of the Nazi League. His son Akira is captured and becomes a guinea pig for experiments in Big X whose efficacy was still not known. Akira is blown up into a gigantic man and succeeds in recapturing the cards. Members of the Nazi League then tries to take back the cards but fail. However, in the process they kill Prof. Asagumo.
Prof. Hanamaru, an intimate friend of Prof. Asagumo, manages to complete the medicine Big X which he places in a syringe shaped like a sharp pencil. He gives this syringe, together with clothes made of special rubber which can be worn by anyone no matter how gigantic he grows, to Akira. There are five graduations on the syringe and by manipulating it, it would be possible for one to become as hard as steel or as big as he wished. Akira decides to use this syringe to do battle against evil men.
The Nazi League creates a robot called V-3 in order to test Big X, which captures Akira. Akira is sent to a concentration camp in a country called Carthago, a country which the Nazi League had conquered. The commander-in-chief of the army of Carthago was a man named Hans who was the grandson of Prof. Engels who had worked together with Akira's grandfather in conducting researches on Big X. Akira meets Nina, a girl capable of telepathy and learns from her the whereabouts of Big X. He then escapes from the concentration camp. (To be continued in Vol. II).
Produced in the TV series "Big X" in 1964.

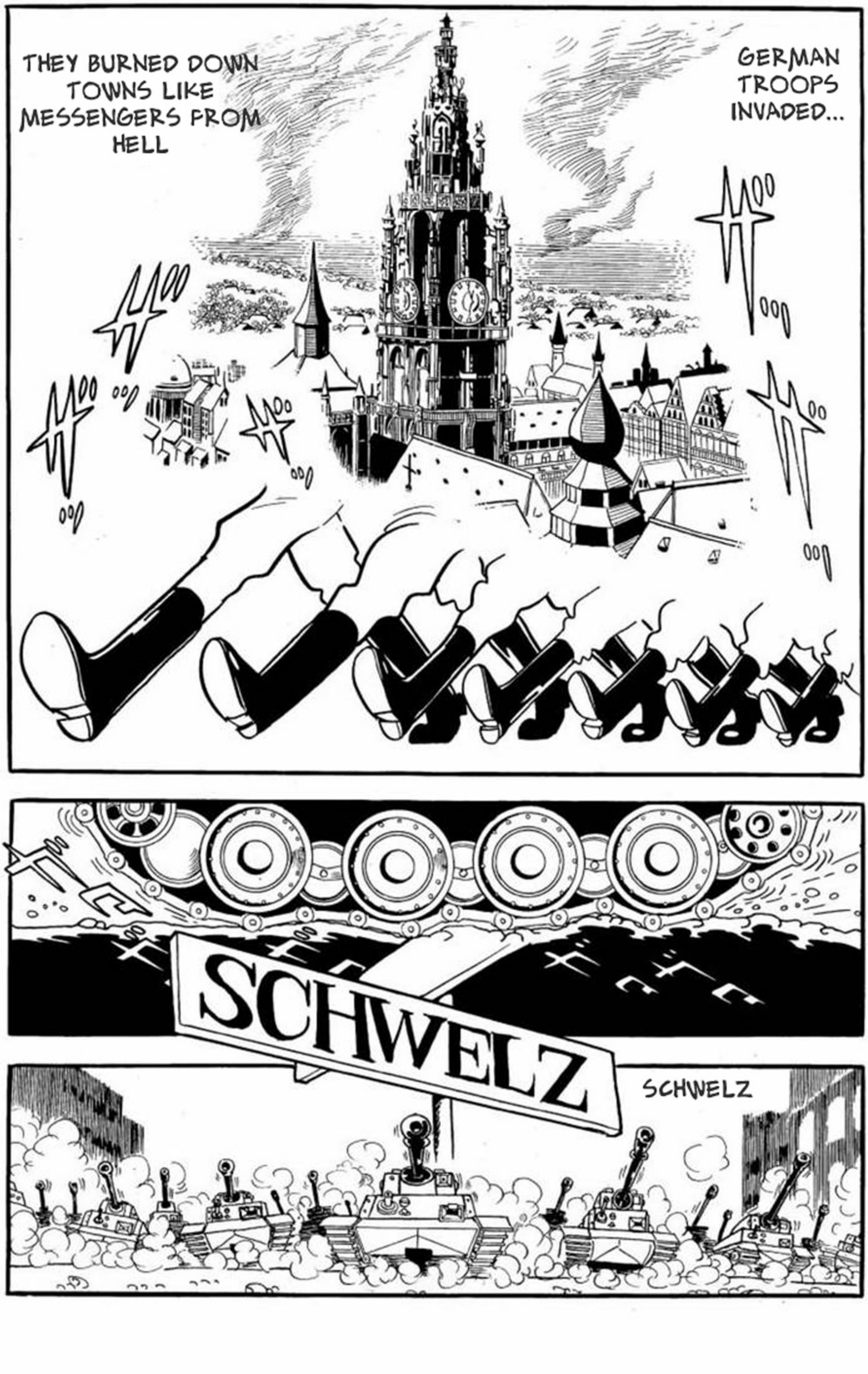
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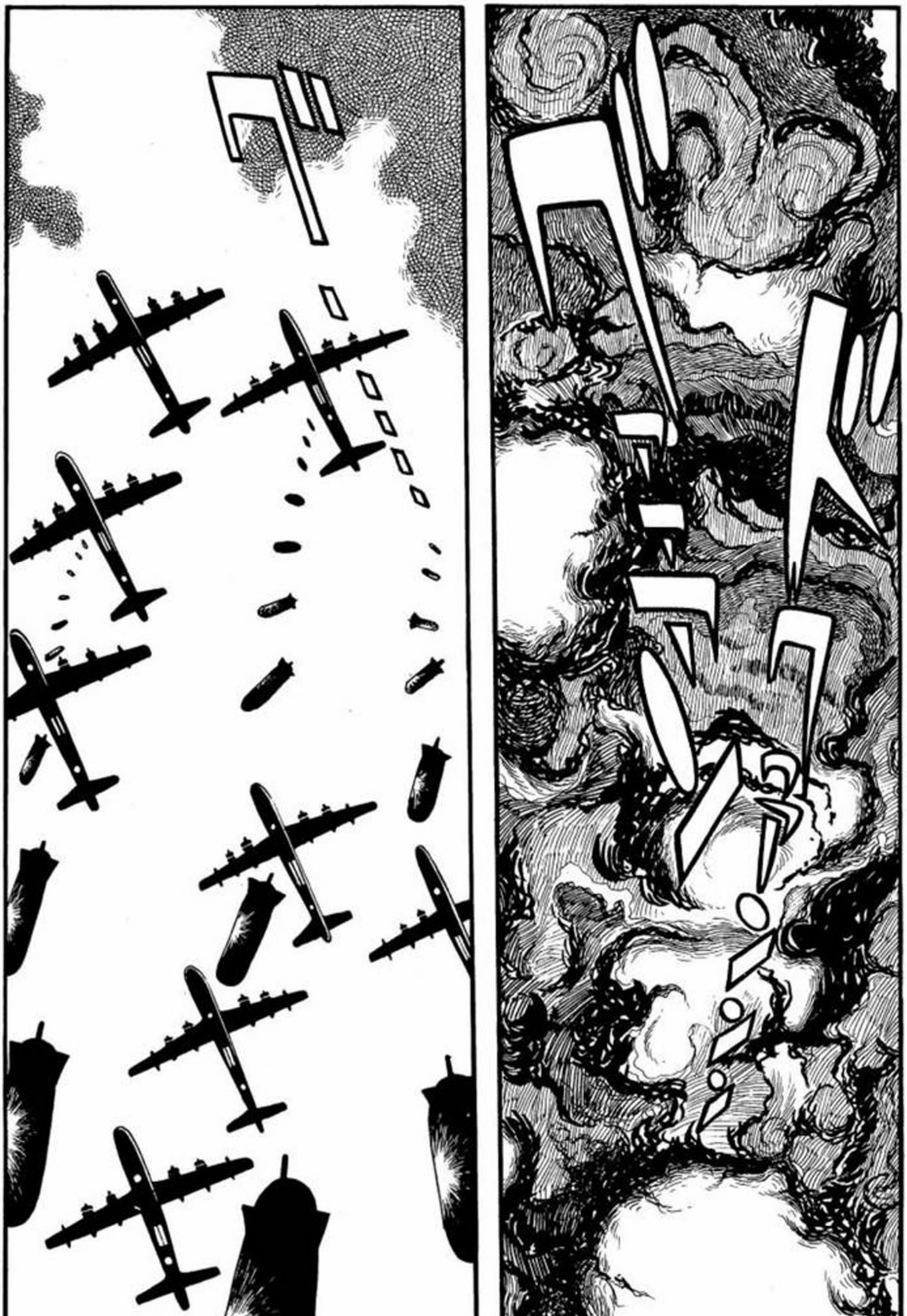
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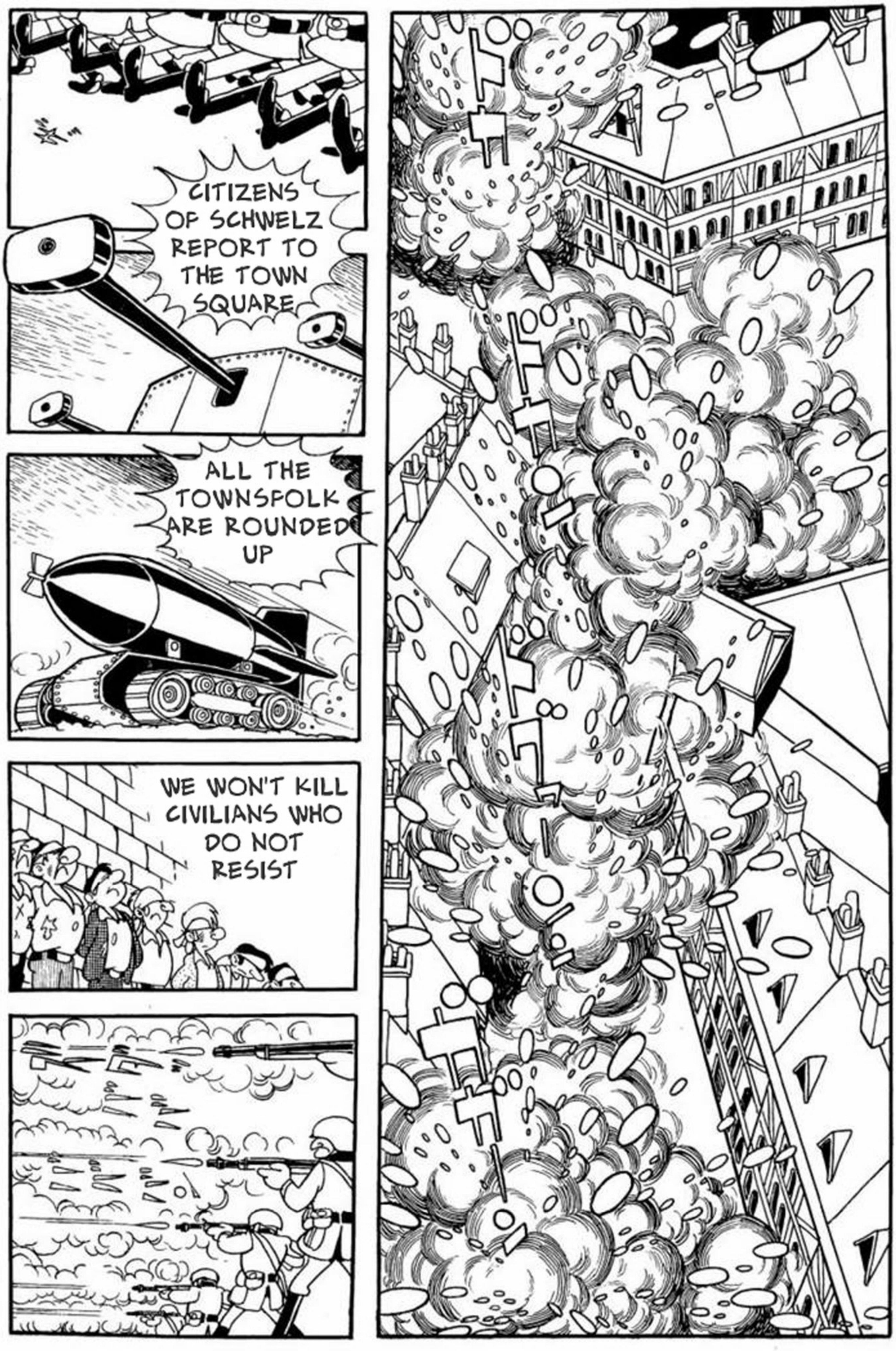
PROLOGUE
1945



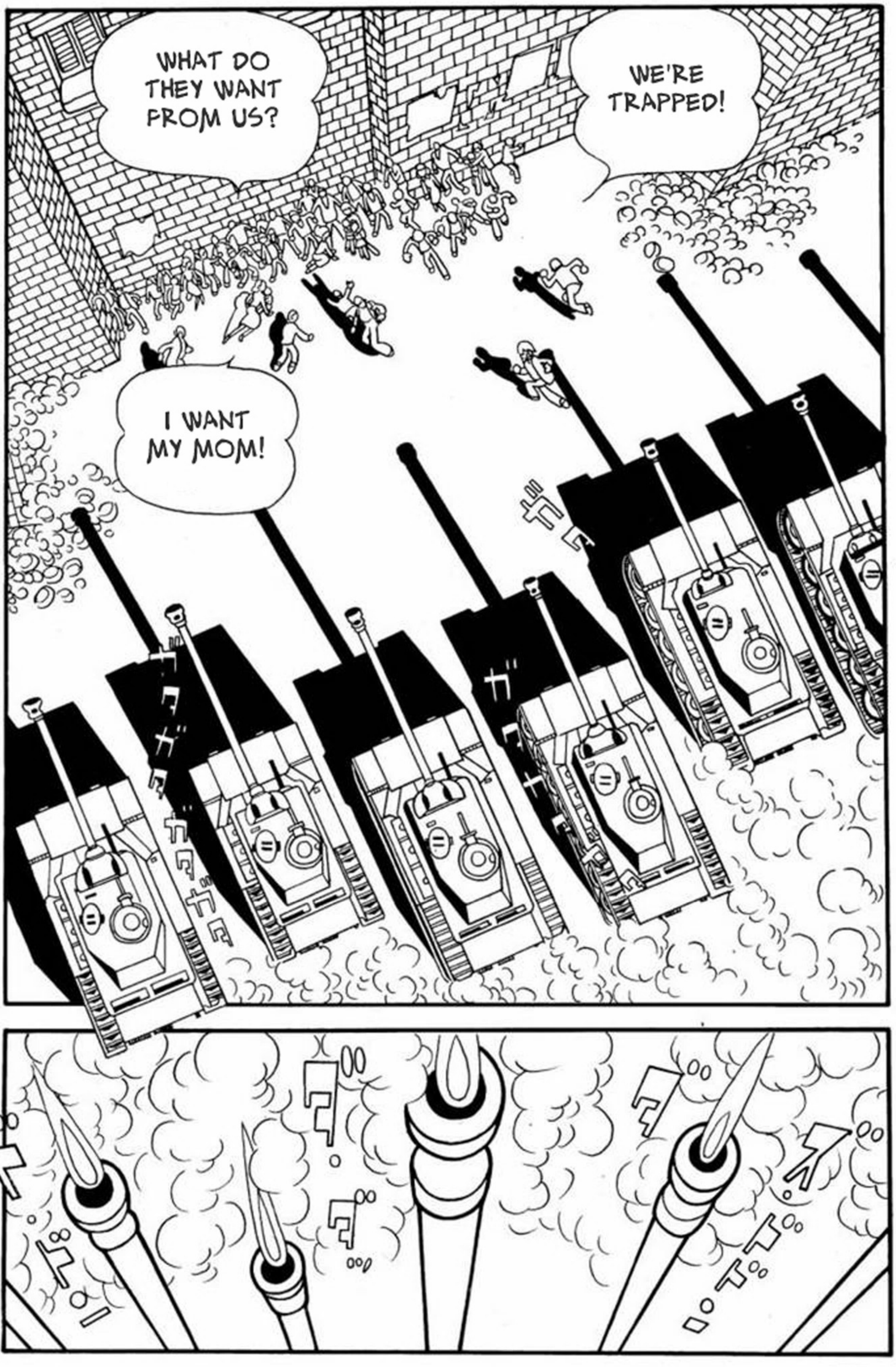

IT'S DECEMBER 1942, WORLD WAR II
GERMANY'S MARCH ACROSS EUROPE CONTINUES...

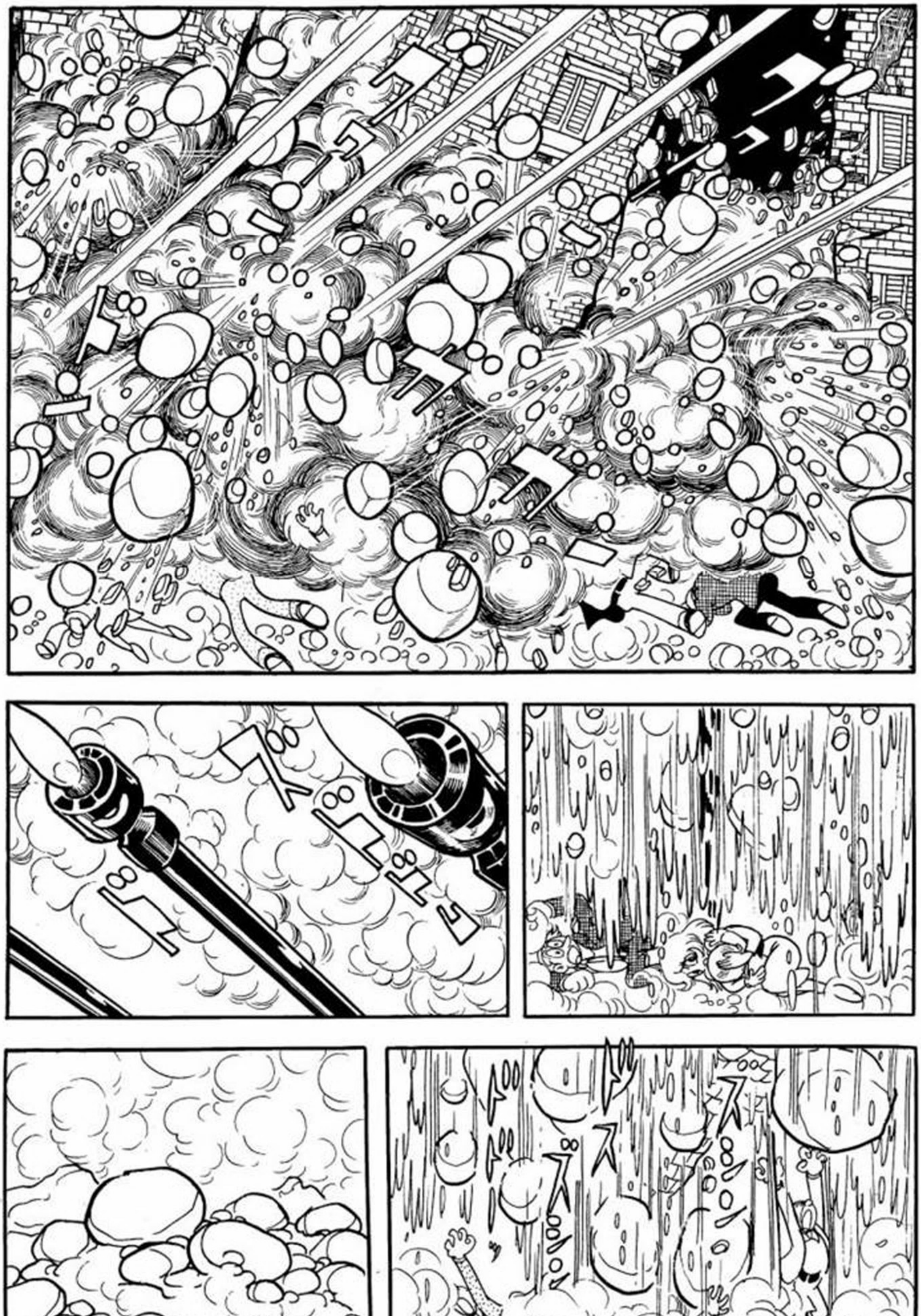

GERMAN TROOPS INVADED...
THEY BURNED DOWN TOWNS LIKE MESSENGERS FROM HELL
SCHWELZ
SCHWELZ

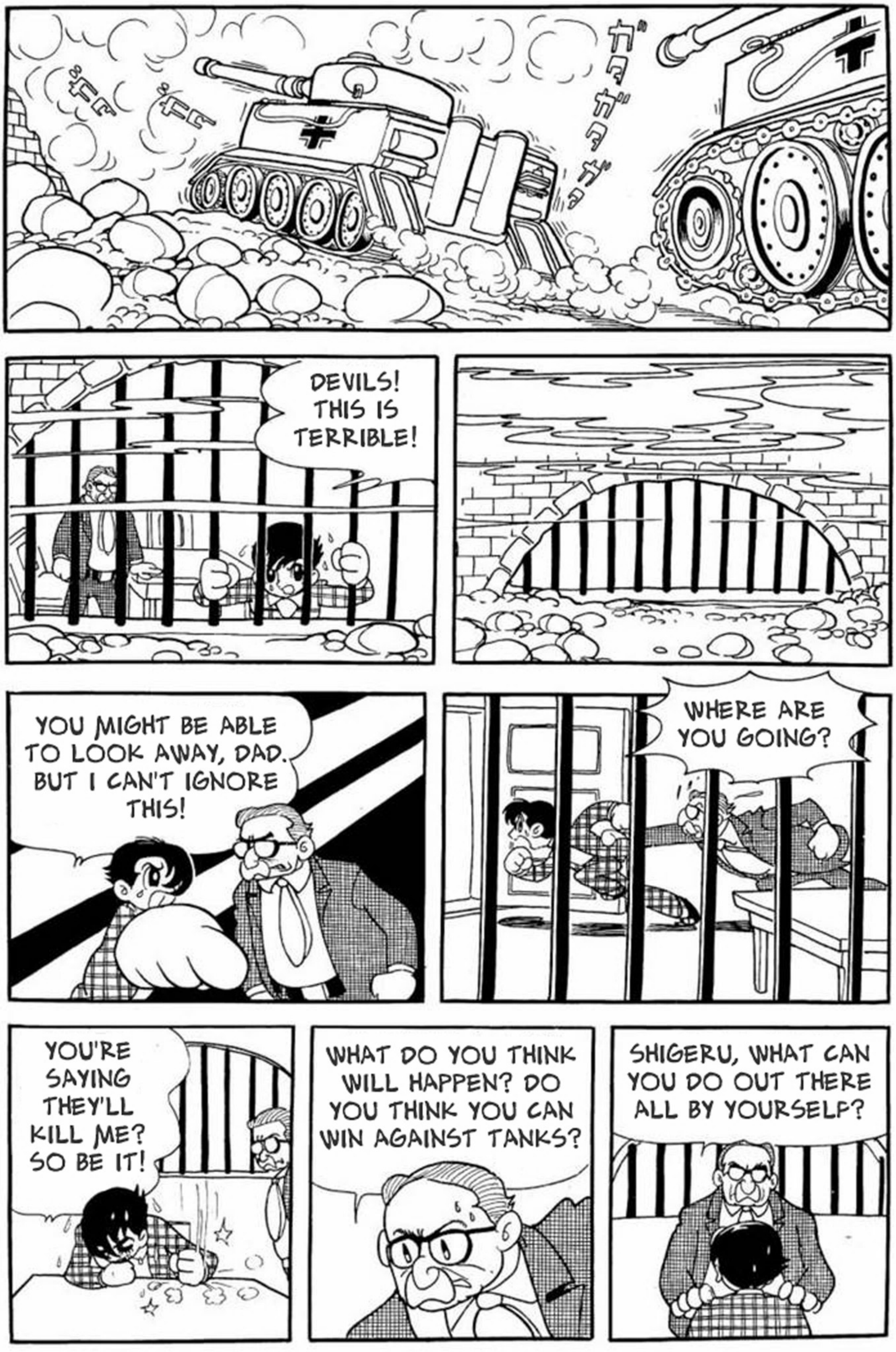

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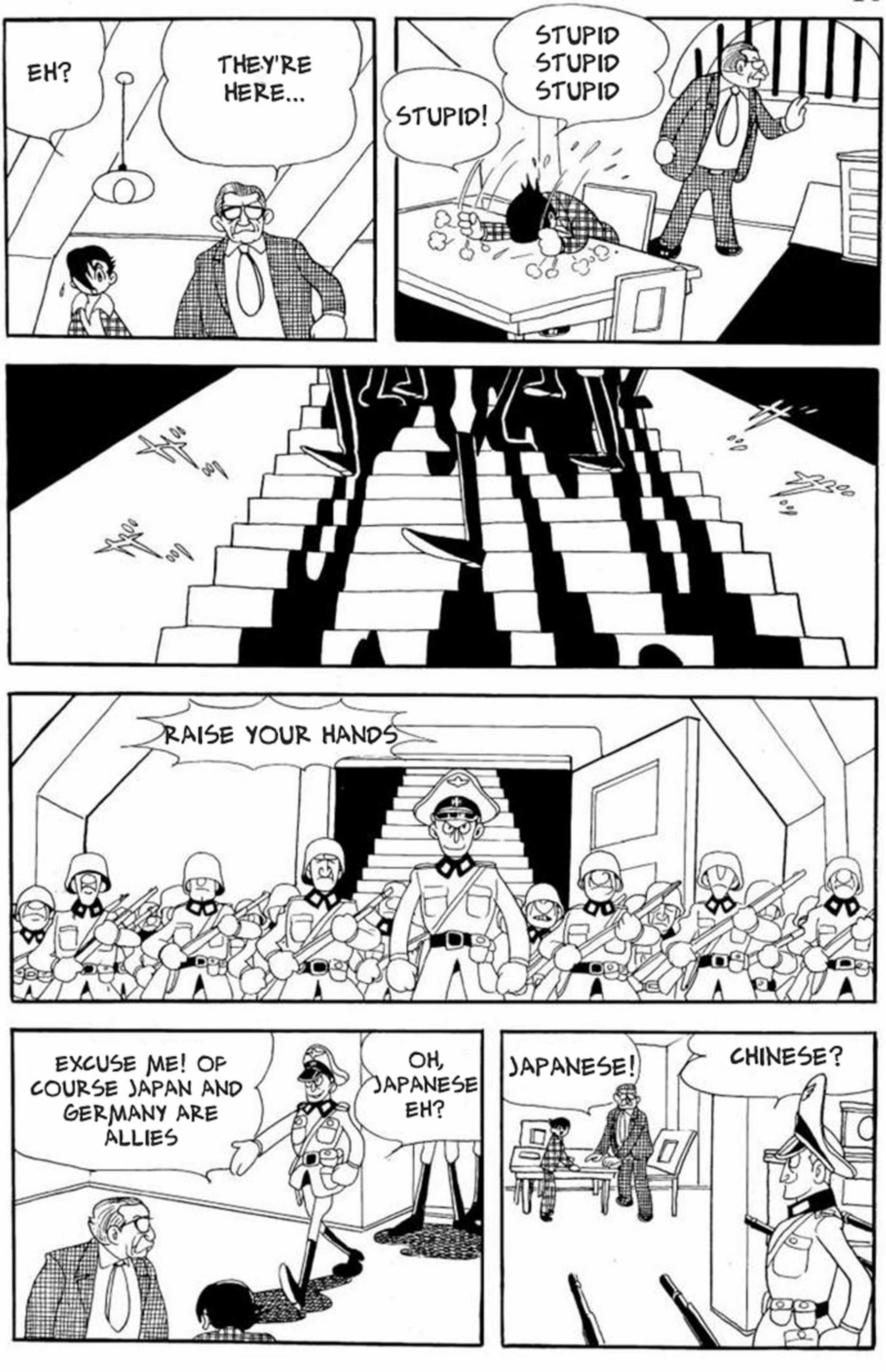

CITIZENS OF SCHWELZ REPORT TO THE TOWN SQUARE
ALL THE TOWNSFOLK ARE ROUNDED UP
WE WON'T KILL CIVILIANS WHO DO NOT RESIST

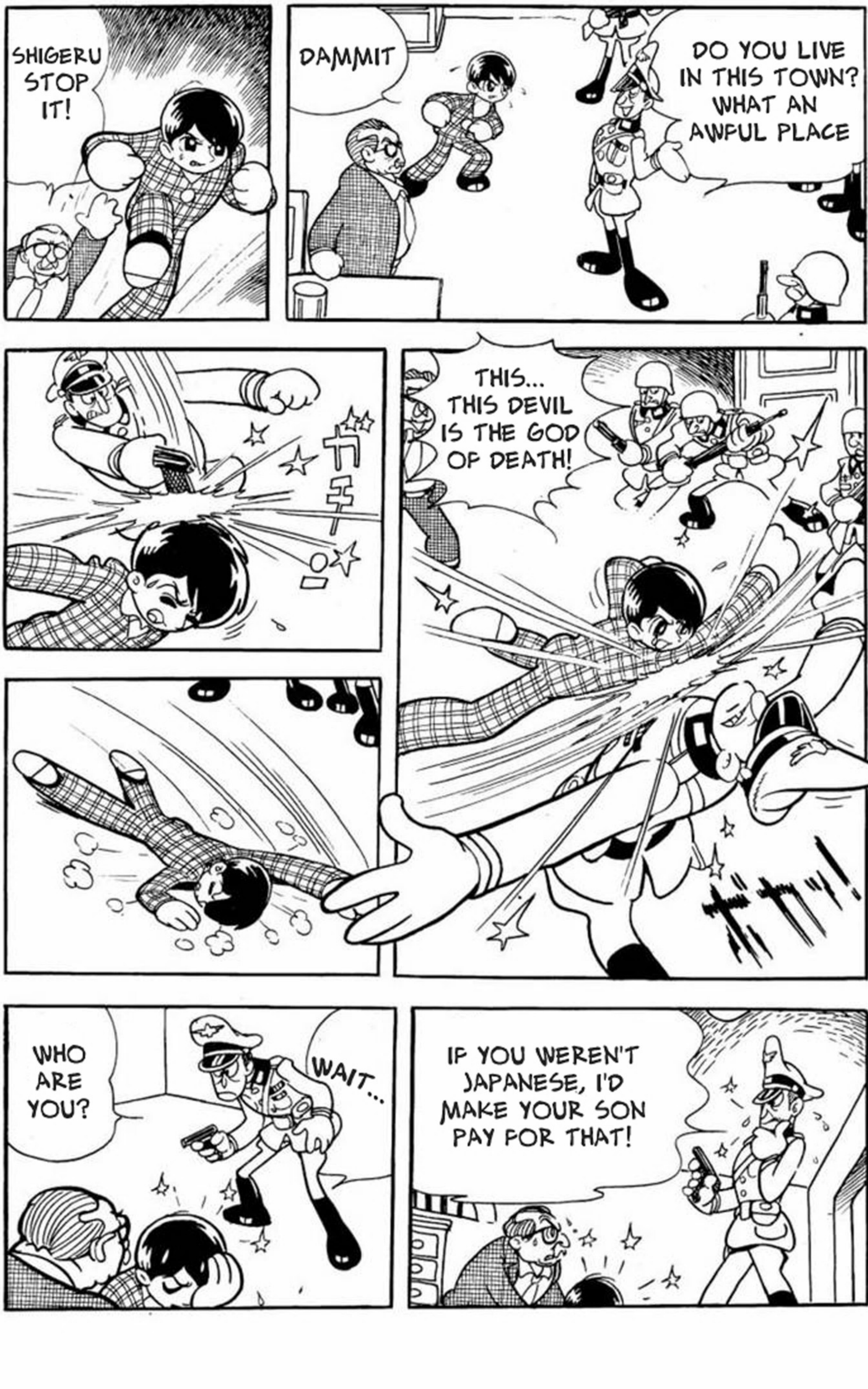

THEY SAID THEY WOULDN'T HARM US!
HEY!
MY DOLL!
WE.. WE'RE DONE FOR!
WHAA!

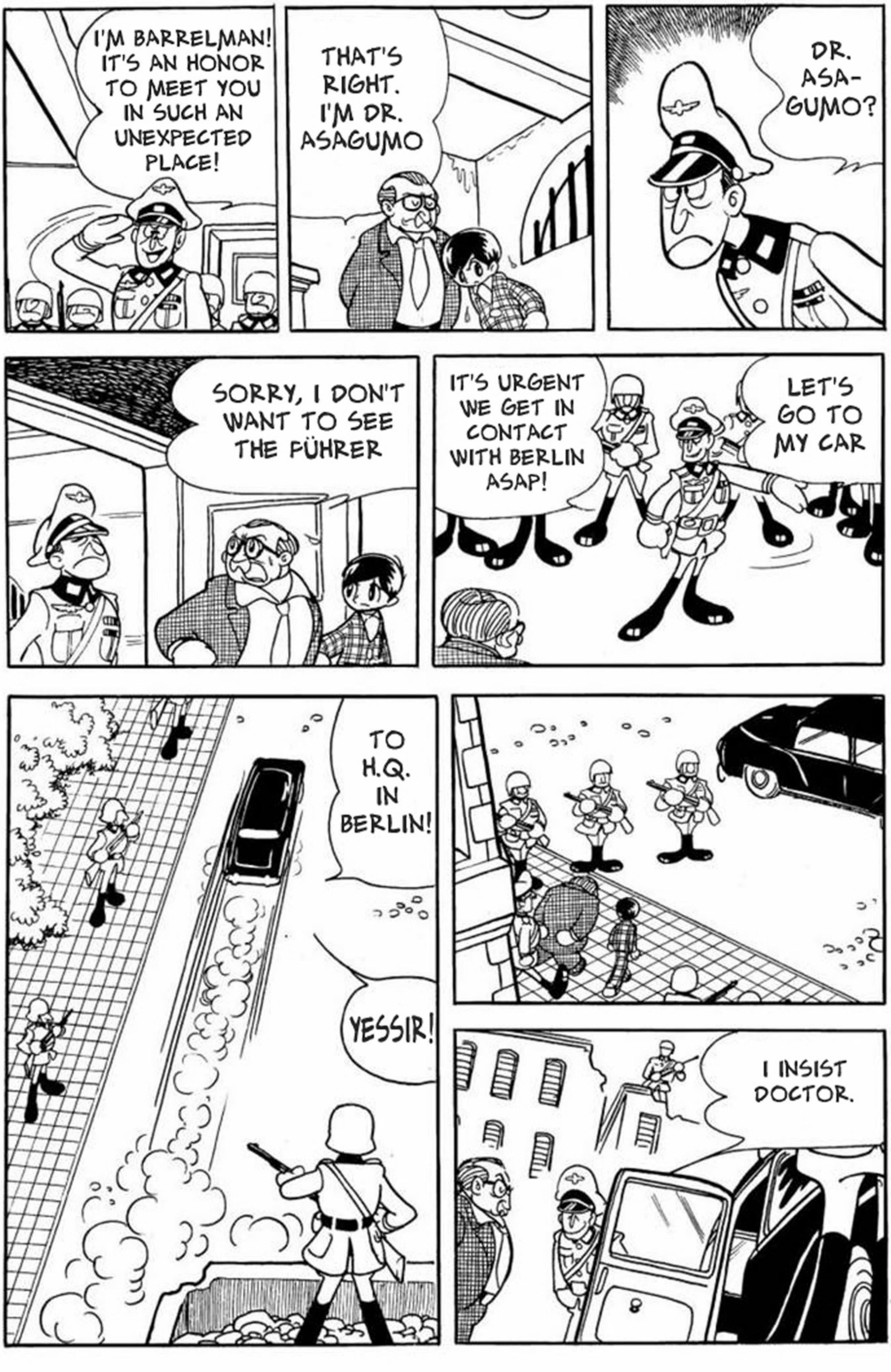

WHAT DO THEY WANT FROM US?
WE'RE TRAPPED!
I WANT MY MOM!

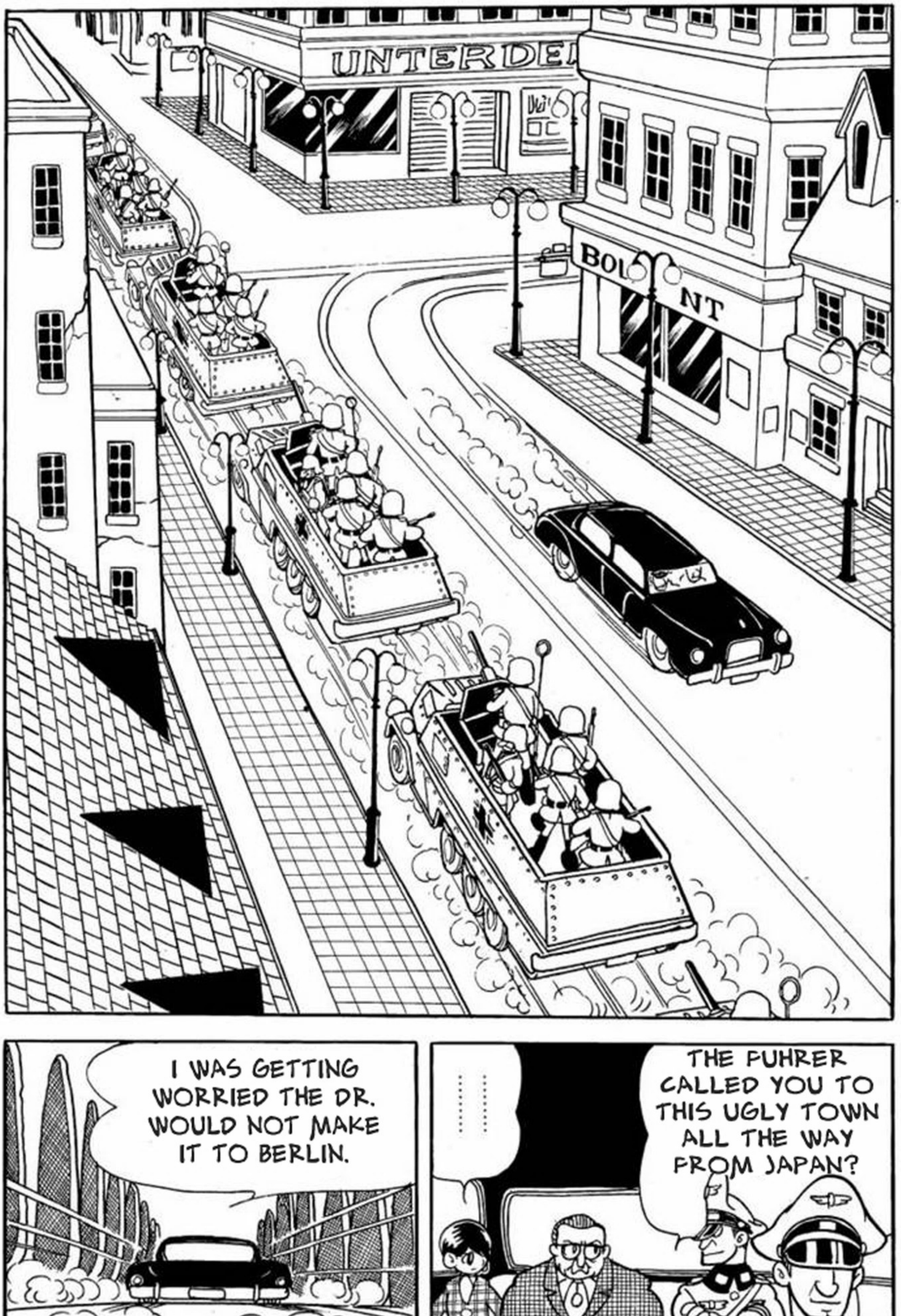


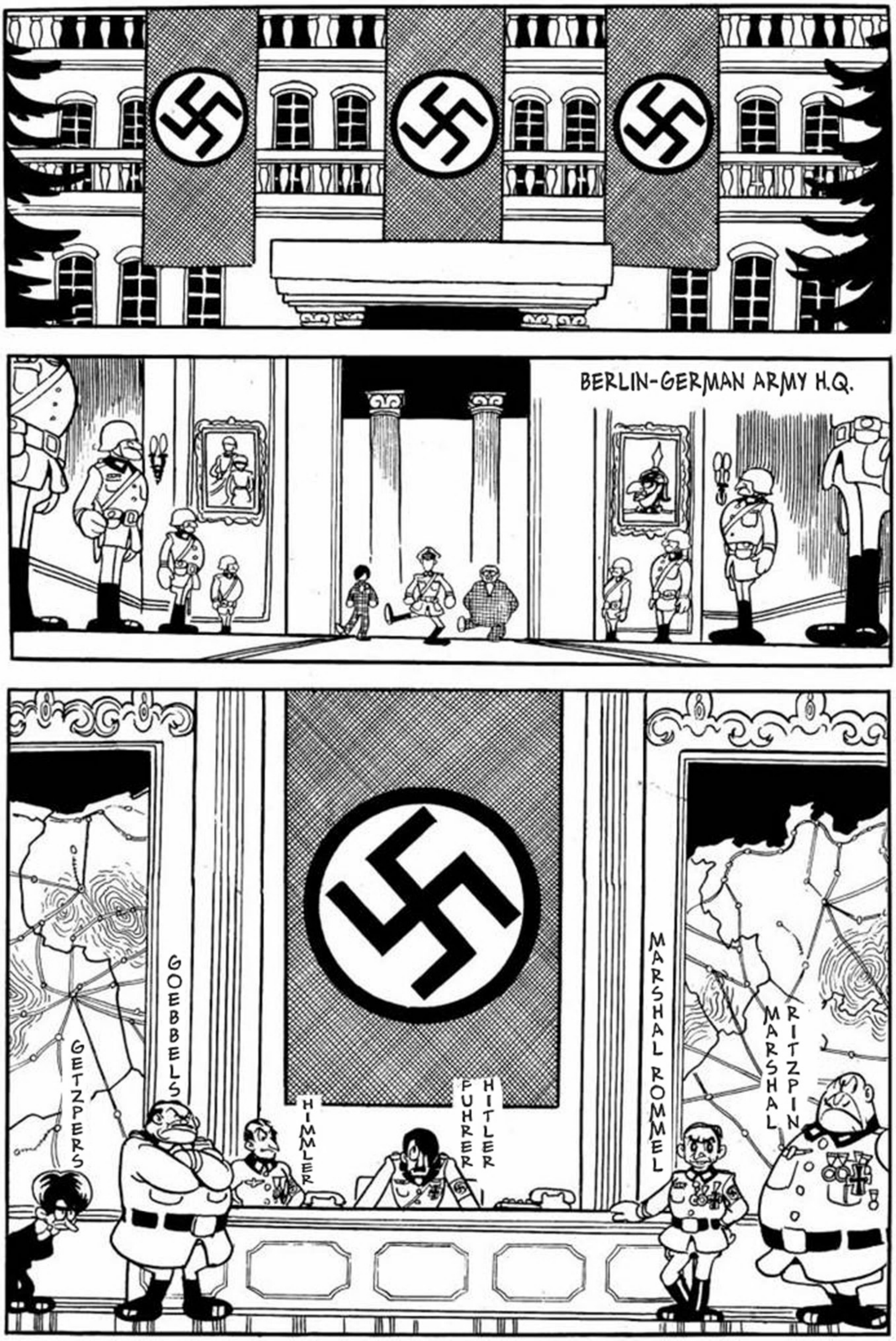

DEVILS! THIS IS TERRIBLE!
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO LOOK AWAY, DAD. BUT I CAN'T IGNORE THIS!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOU'RE SAYING THEY'LL KILL ME? SO BE IT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN? DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN AGAINST TANKS?
SHIGERU, WHAT CAN YOU DO OUT THERE ALL BY YOURSELF?


EH?
THEY'RE HERE...
STUPID STUPID STUPID
STUPID!
RAISE YOUR HANDS
EXCUSE ME! OF COURSE JAPAN AND GERMANY ARE ALLIES
OH, JAPANESE EH?
CHINESE?
JAPANESE!


SHIGERU STOP IT!
DAMMIT
DO YOU LIVE IN THIS TOWN? WHAT AN AWFUL PLACE
THIS... THIS DEVIL IS THE GOD OF DEATH!
WHO ARE YOU?
WAIT...
IF YOU WEREN'T JAPANESE, I'D MAKE YOUR SON PAY FOR THAT!

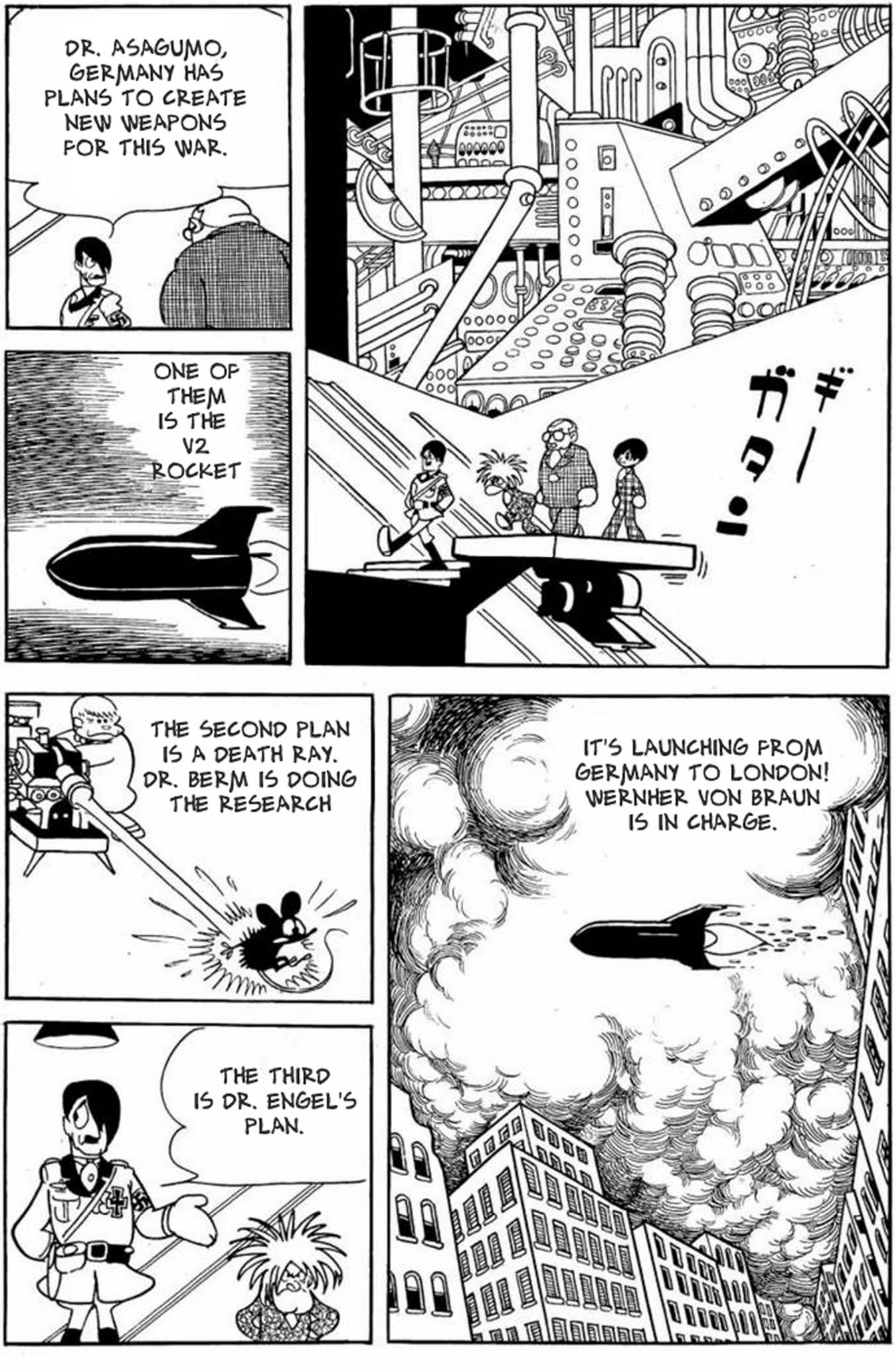

I'M BARRELMAN! IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU IN SUCH AN UNEXPECTED PLACE!
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M DR. ASAGUMO
DR. ASA-GUMO?
SORRY, I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE FÜHRER
IT'S URGENT WE GET IN CONTACT WITH BERLIN ASAP!
LET'S GO TO MY CAR
TO H.Q. IN BERLIN!
YESSIR!
I INSIST DOCTOR.


I WAS GETTING WORRIED THE DR. WOULD NOT MAKE IT TO BERLIN.
......
THE FUHRER CALLED YOU TO THIS UGLY TOWN ALL THE WAY FROM JAPAN?

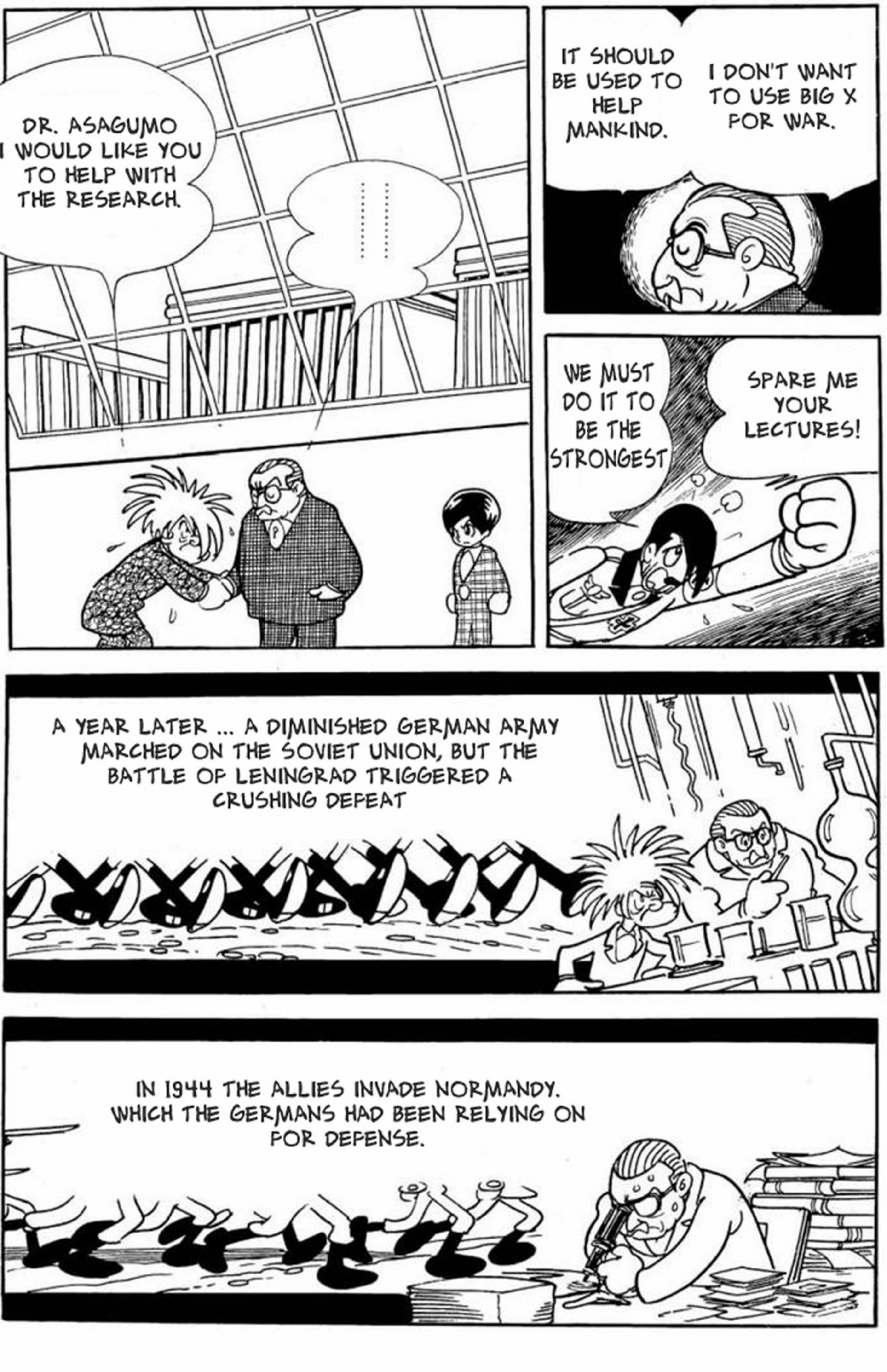

BERLIN-GERMAN ARMY H.Q.
GETZPERS
GOEBBELS
HIMMLER
FUHRER HITLER
MARSHAL ROMMEL
MARSHAL RITZPIN



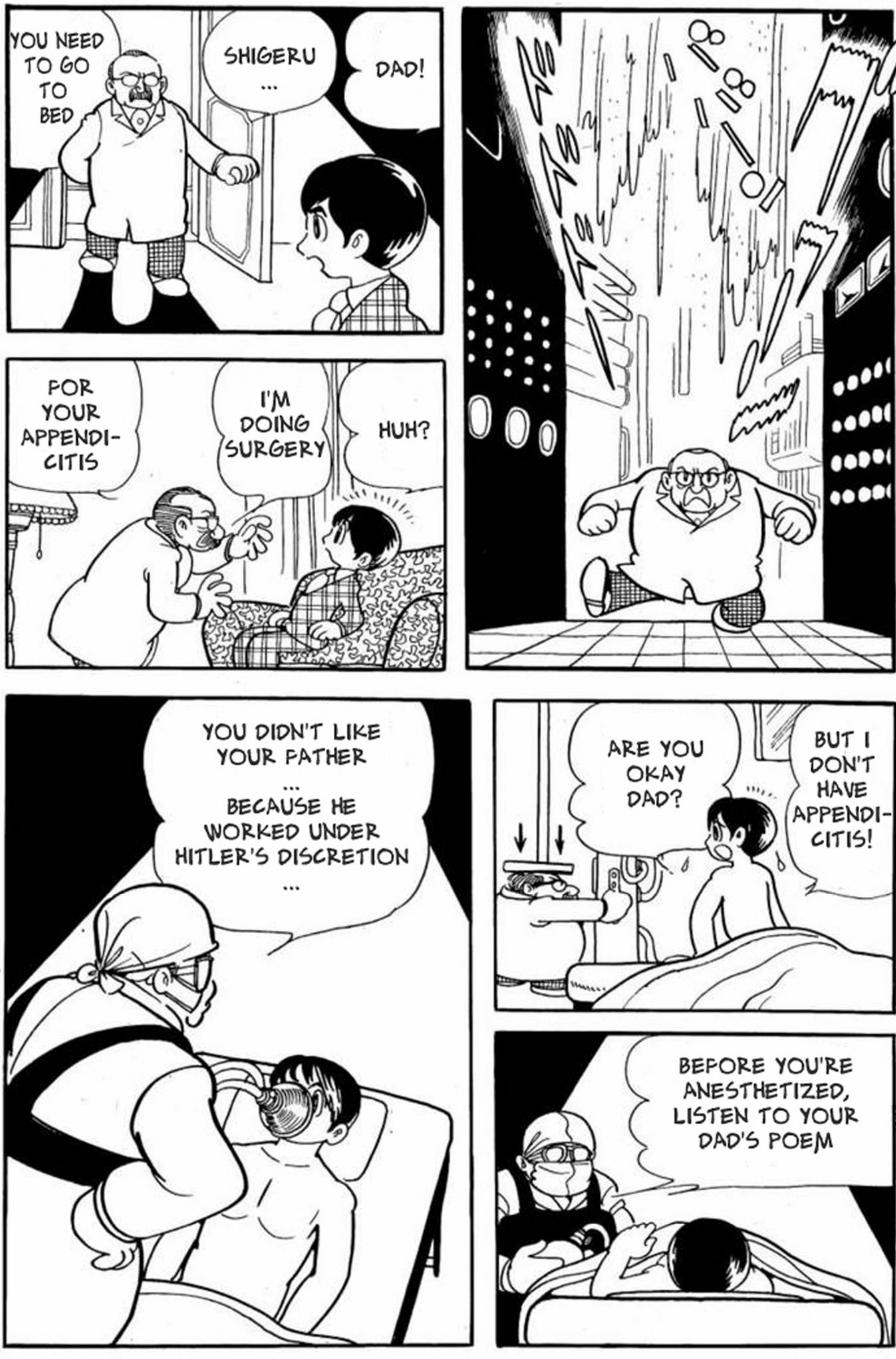
*each are famous physicians known for studies of bubonic plague and syphilis, etc.

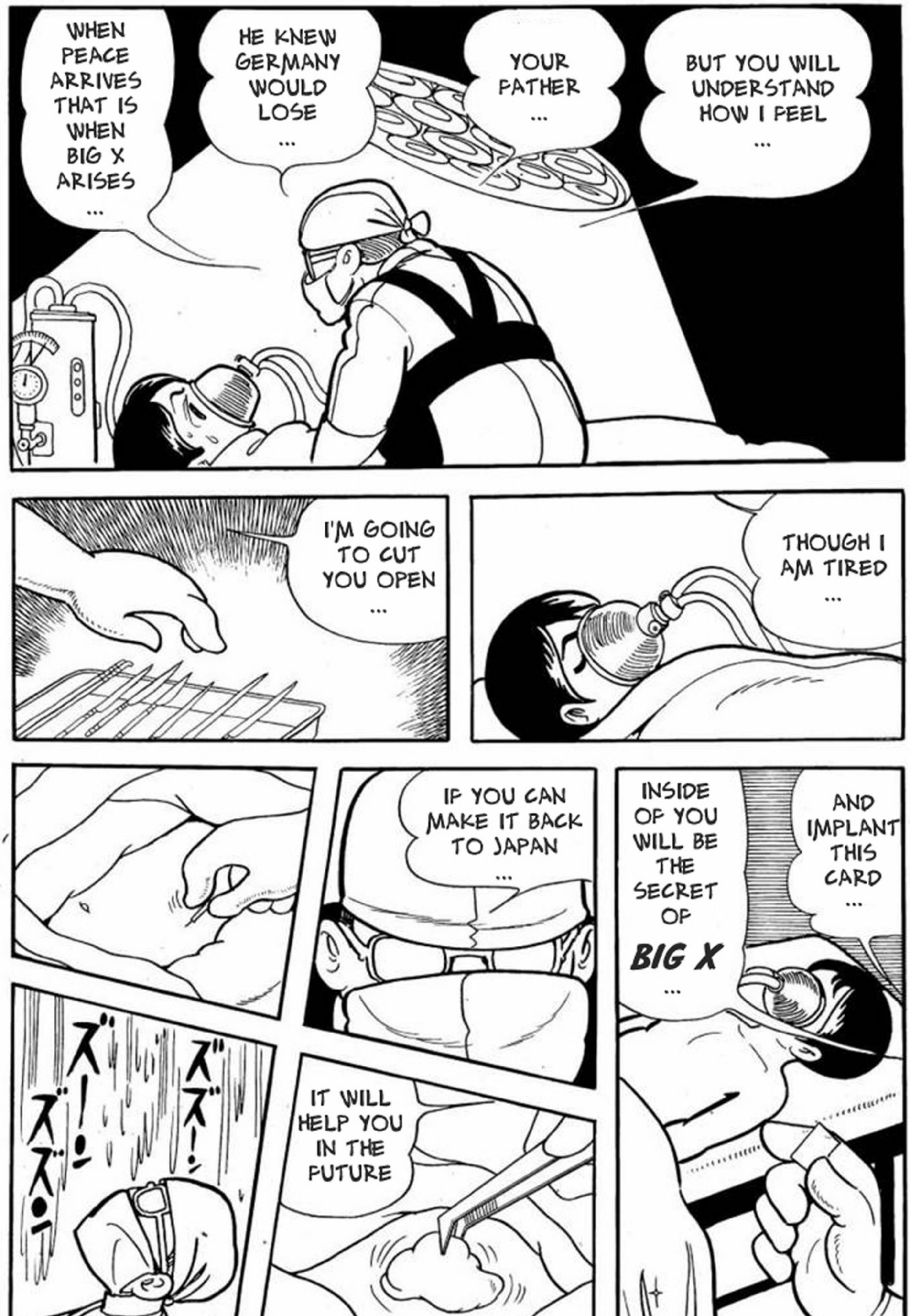

DR. ASAGUMO, GERMANY HAS PLANS TO CREATE NEW WEAPONS FOR THIS WAR.
ONE OF THEM IS THE V2 ROCKET
ギーガタン
IT'S LAUNCHING FROM GERMANY TO LONDON! WERNHER VON BRAUN IS IN CHARGE.
THE SECOND PLAN IS A DEATH RAY. DR. BERM IS DOING THE RESEARCH
THE THIRD IS DR. ENGEL'S PLAN.

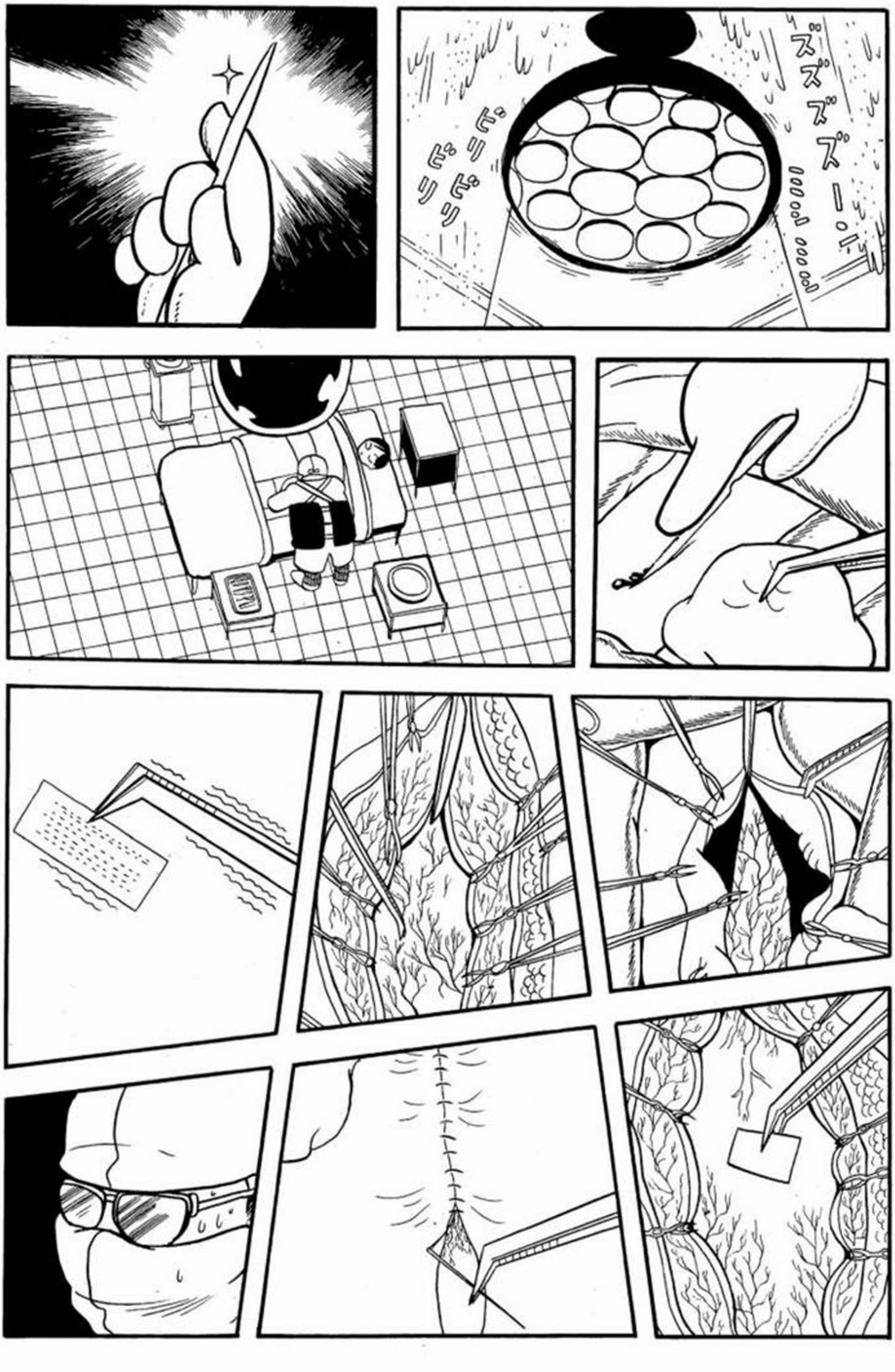

YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT BIG X, AND HAVE YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT IT DR. ASAGUMO ....
PLAN...
BIG X
3 MILLION GERMAN SOLDIERS WILL ALL BE IMMORTAL!
BUT WHEN THE BIG X PROJECT IS COMPLETE ...
I KNOW IT WELL ...
ABOUT BIG X, I...
WE MUST COMPLETE IT AT ANY COST! AND WE'LL DO IT WITH YOUR HELP
I DON'T THINK SO
OF COURSE!
GERMANY IS FIGHTING FOR A RIGHTEOUS CAUSE!
..I THINK ONLY RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE CAN USE SUCH POWER.


DR. ASAGUMO I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HELP WITH THE RESEARCH.
......
IT SHOULD BE USED TO HELP MANKIND.
I DON'T WANT TO USE BIG X FOR WAR.
WE MUST DO IT TO BE THE STRONGEST
SPARE ME YOUR LECTURES!
A YEAR LATER ... A DIMINISHED GERMAN ARMY MARCHED ON THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THE BATTLE OF LENINGRAD TRIGGERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT
IN 1944 THE ALLIES INVADE NORMANDY. WHICH THE GERMANS HAD BEEN RELYING ON FOR DEFENSE.

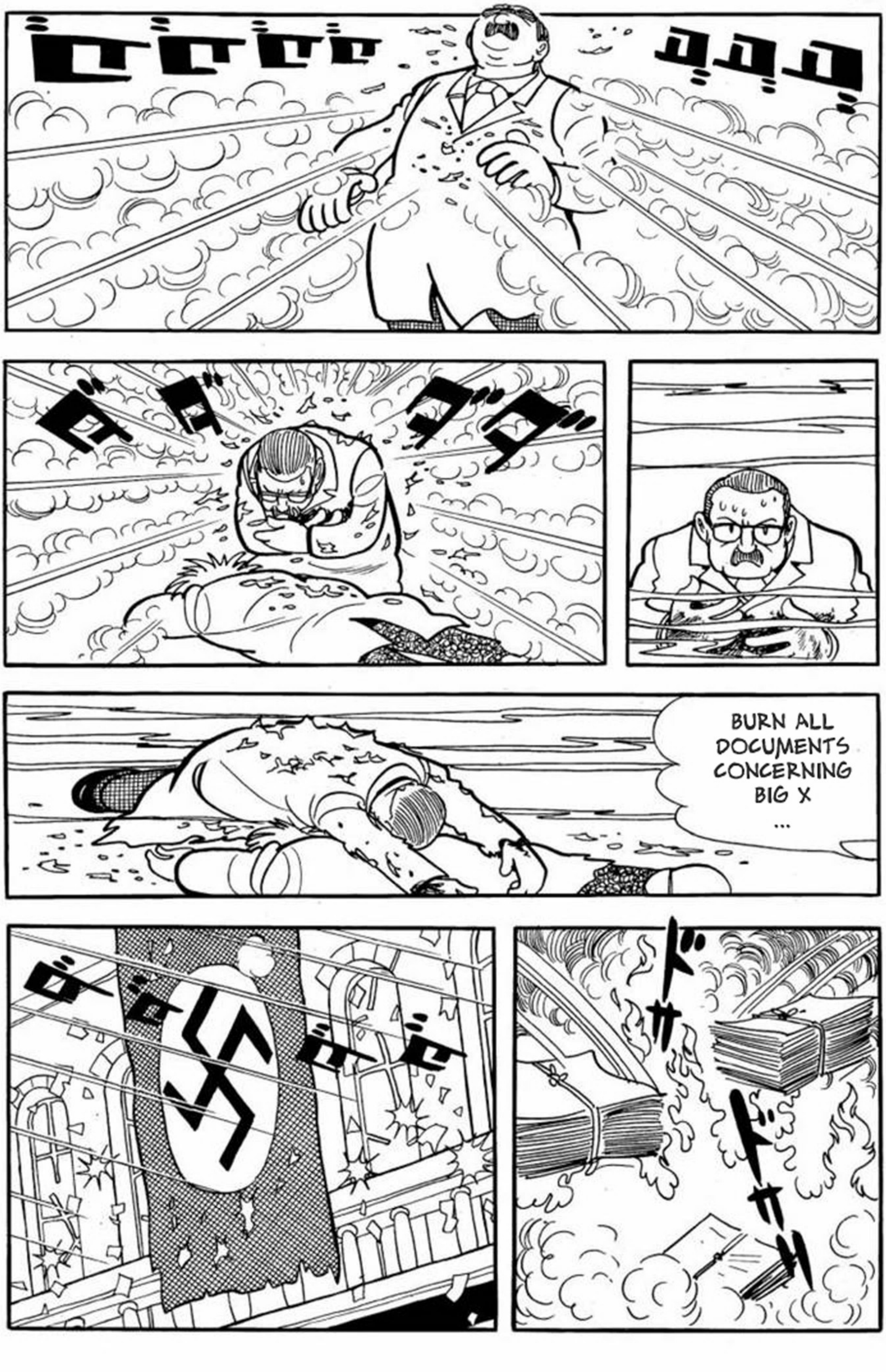

IN BERLIN ...
THE NAZI REGIME WAS COMING TO AN END. IT IS JUST A MATTER OF TIME...
WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO COMPLETE BIG X, DR. ASAGUMO
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AH, I HAVE TO OPERATE ON MY SON'S ACUTE APPEND-ICITIS
BUT ALL THE HOSPITALS ARE FULL
I'M OPERATING AT MY OWN HOME.

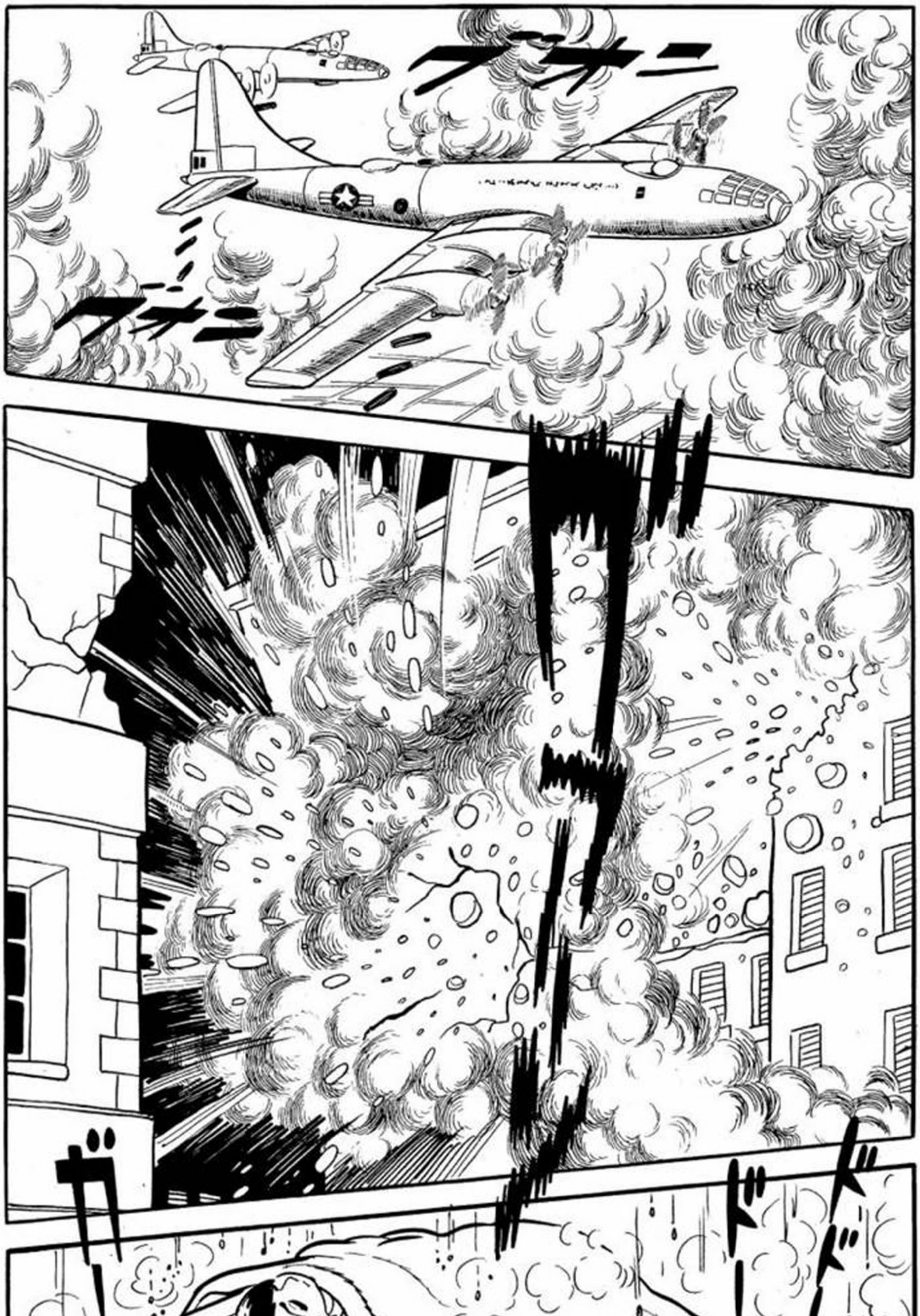

DAD!
SHIGERU ...
YOU NEED TO GO TO BED
HUH?
I'M DOING SURGERY
FOR YOUR APPENDICITIS
BUT I DON'T HAVE APPENDICITIS!
ARE YOU OKAY DAD?
BEFORE YOU'RE ANESTHETIZED, LISTEN TO YOUR DAD'S POEM
YOU DIDN'T LIKE YOUR FATHER ... BECAUSE HE WORKED UNDER HITLER'S DISCRETION ...

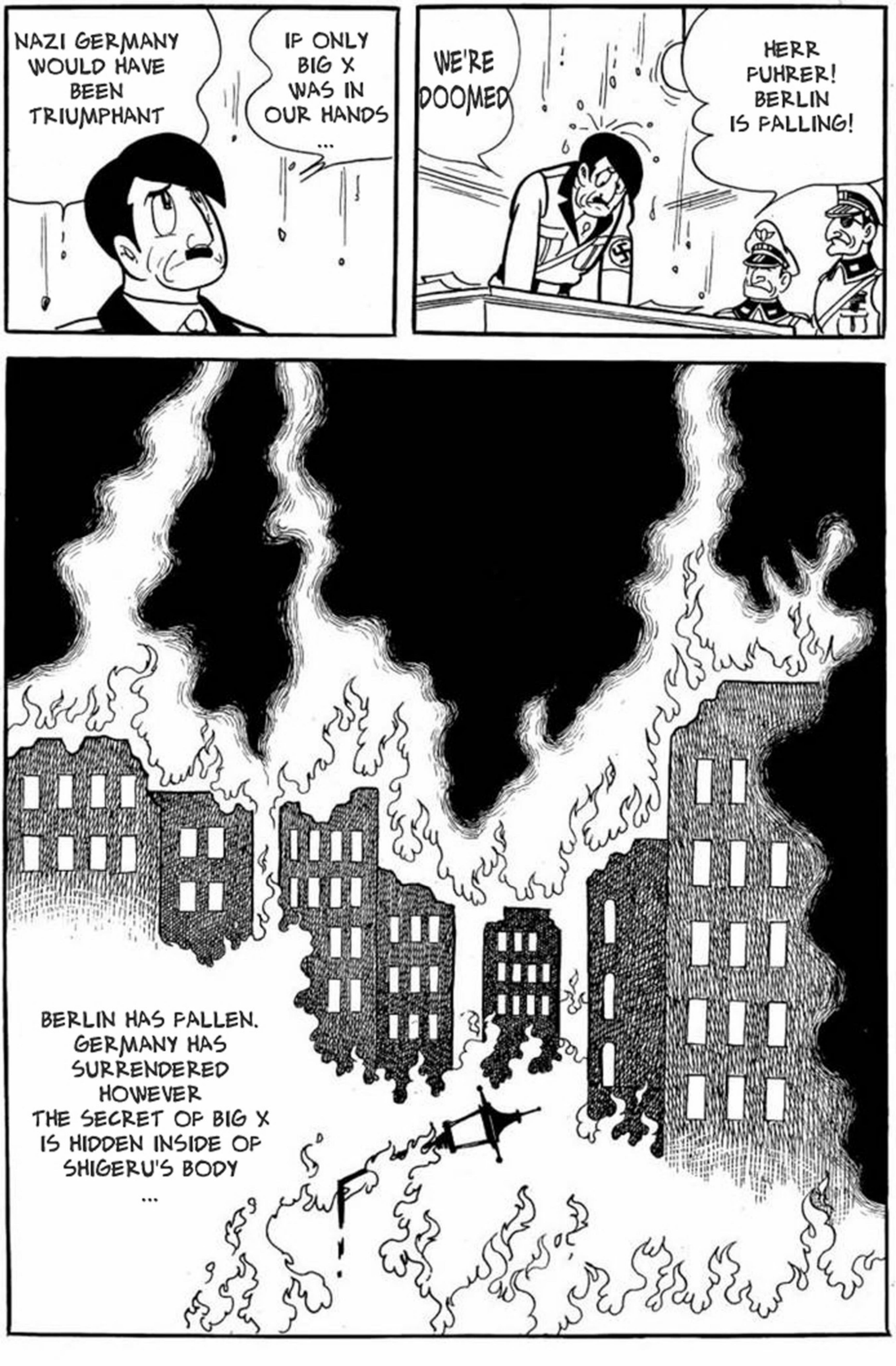

BUT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL ...
YOUR FATHER ...
HE KNEW GERMANY WOULD LOSE ...
WHEN PEACE ARRIVES THAT IS WHEN BIG X ARISES ...
THOUGH I AM TIRED ...
I'M GOING TO CUT YOU OPEN ...
AND IMPLANT THIS CARD ...
INSIDE OF YOU WILL BE THE SECRET OF BIG X ...
IF YOU CAN MAKE IT BACK TO JAPAN ...
IT WILL HELP YOU IN THE FUTURE
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ズズズズー…!!
ビリビリ
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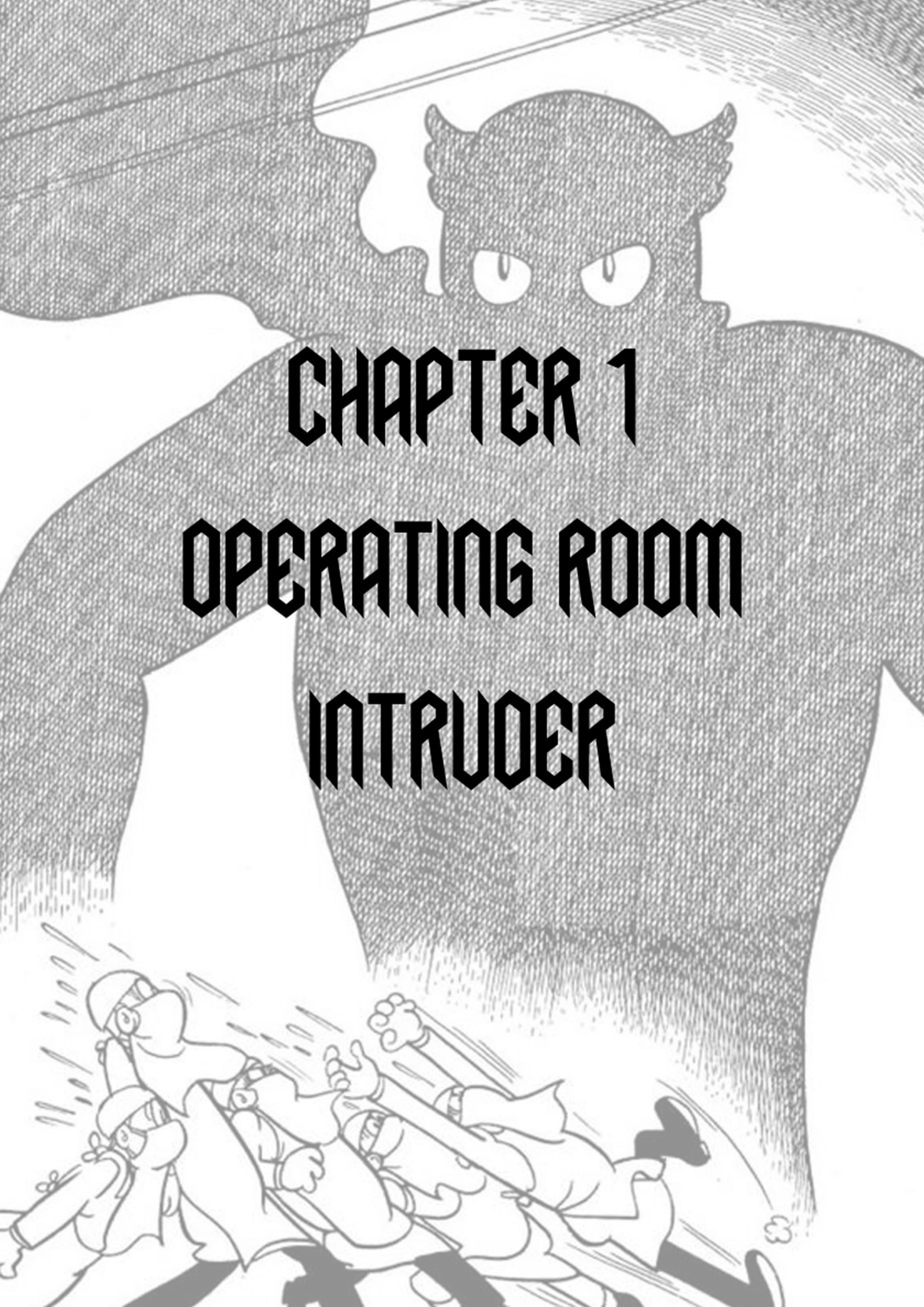

THE SURGERY IS DONE
ドドドド
ズズン
MACHINE GUN FIRE
DR. ENGEL !
DR. ASAGUMO. WE HAVE ORDERS FROM HERR FUHRER ...
ORDERS TO KILL US?
THAT'S RIGHT! THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT YOU AND DR. ENGEL WERE SCHEMING TO COMPLETE BIG X ON YOUR OWN.


BURN ALL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING BIG X
...

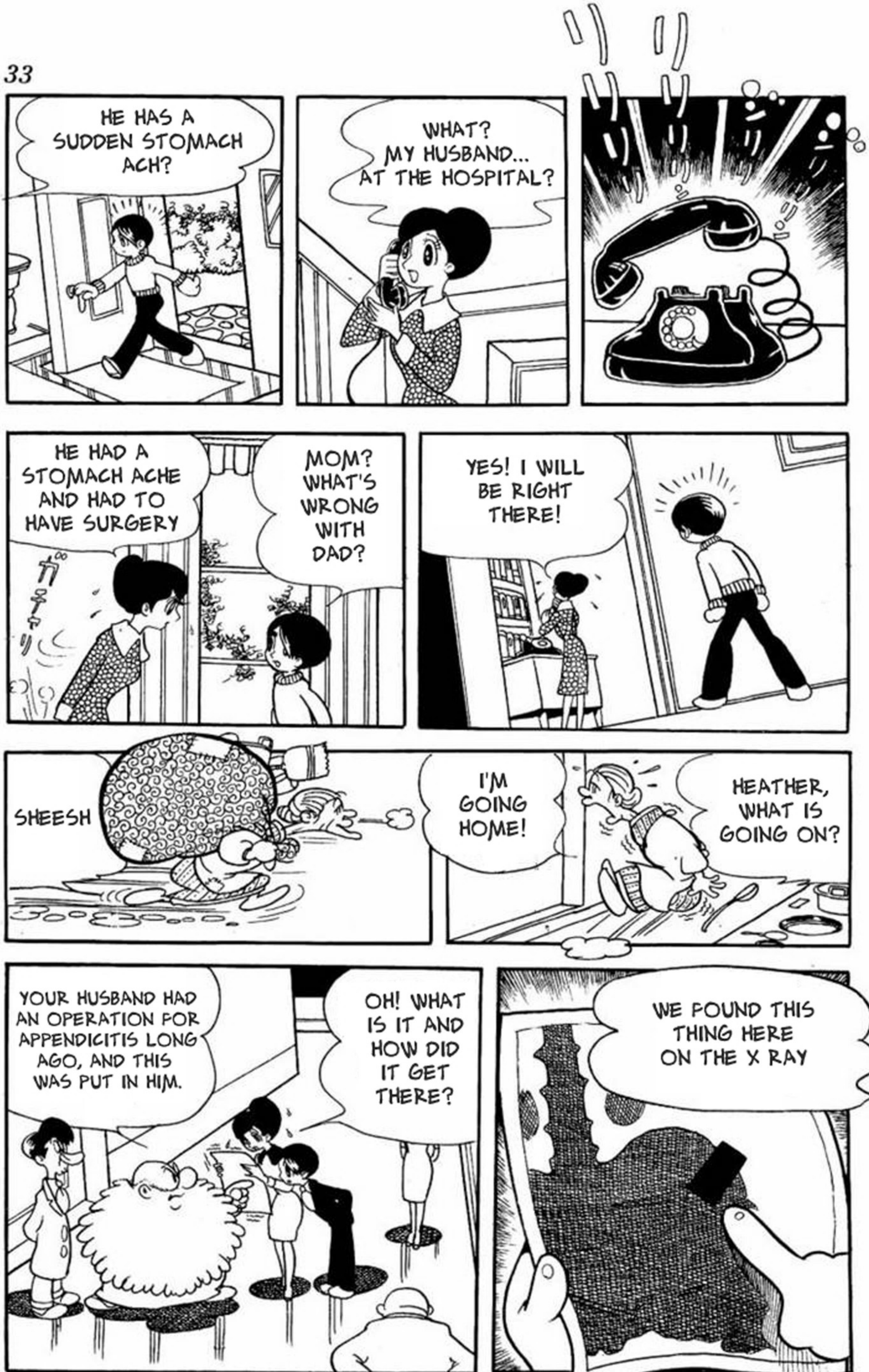

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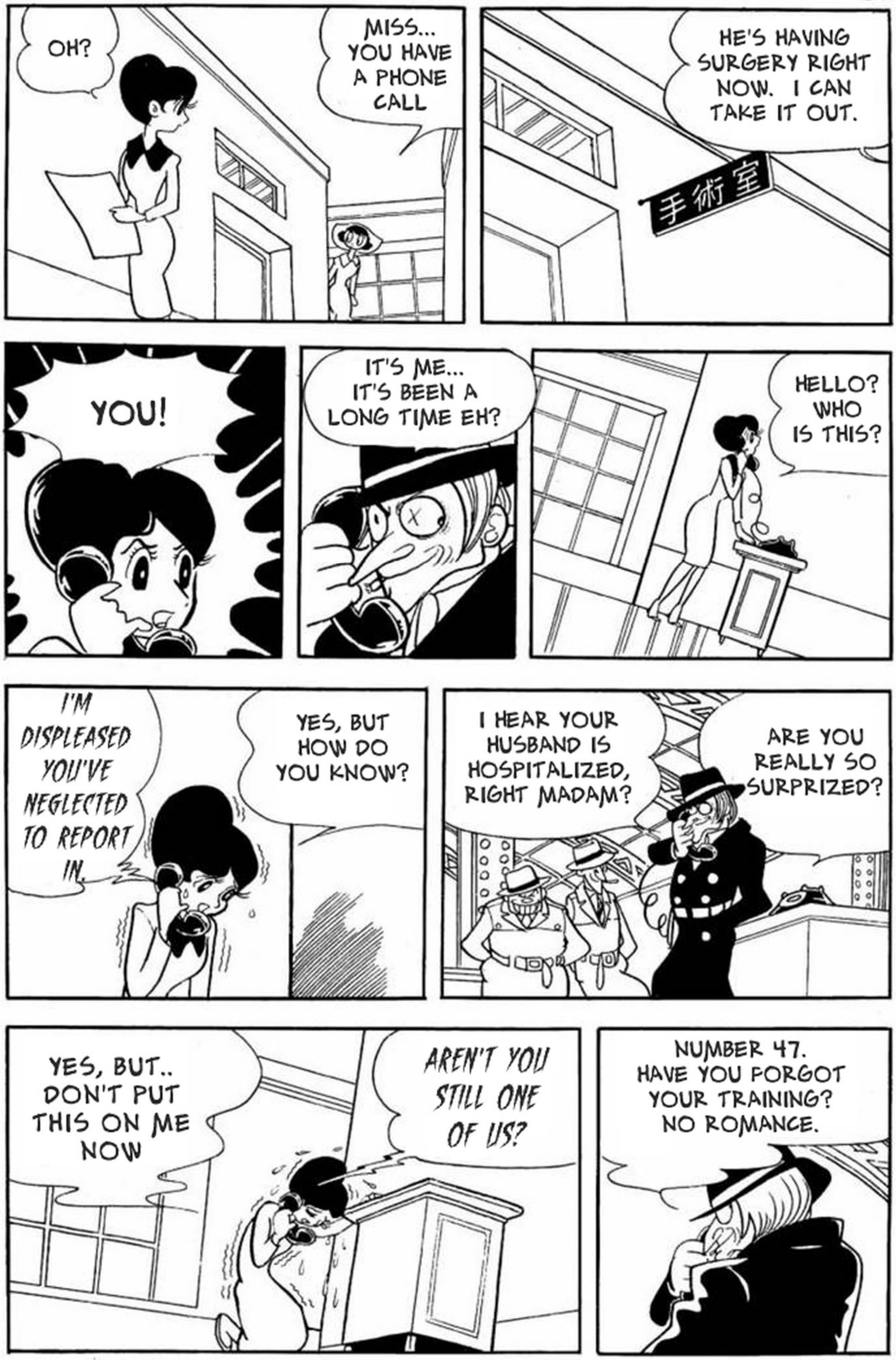

HERR FUHRER! BERLIN IS FALLING!
WE'RE DOOMED
IF ONLY BIG X WAS IN OUR HANDS ...
NAZI GERMANY WOULD HAVE BEEN TRIUMPHANT
BERLIN HAS FALLEN. GERMANY HAS SURRENDERED HOWEVER THE SECRET OF BIG X IS HIDDEN INSIDE OF SHIGERU'S BODY ...

CHAPTER 1
OPERATING ROOM INTRUDER

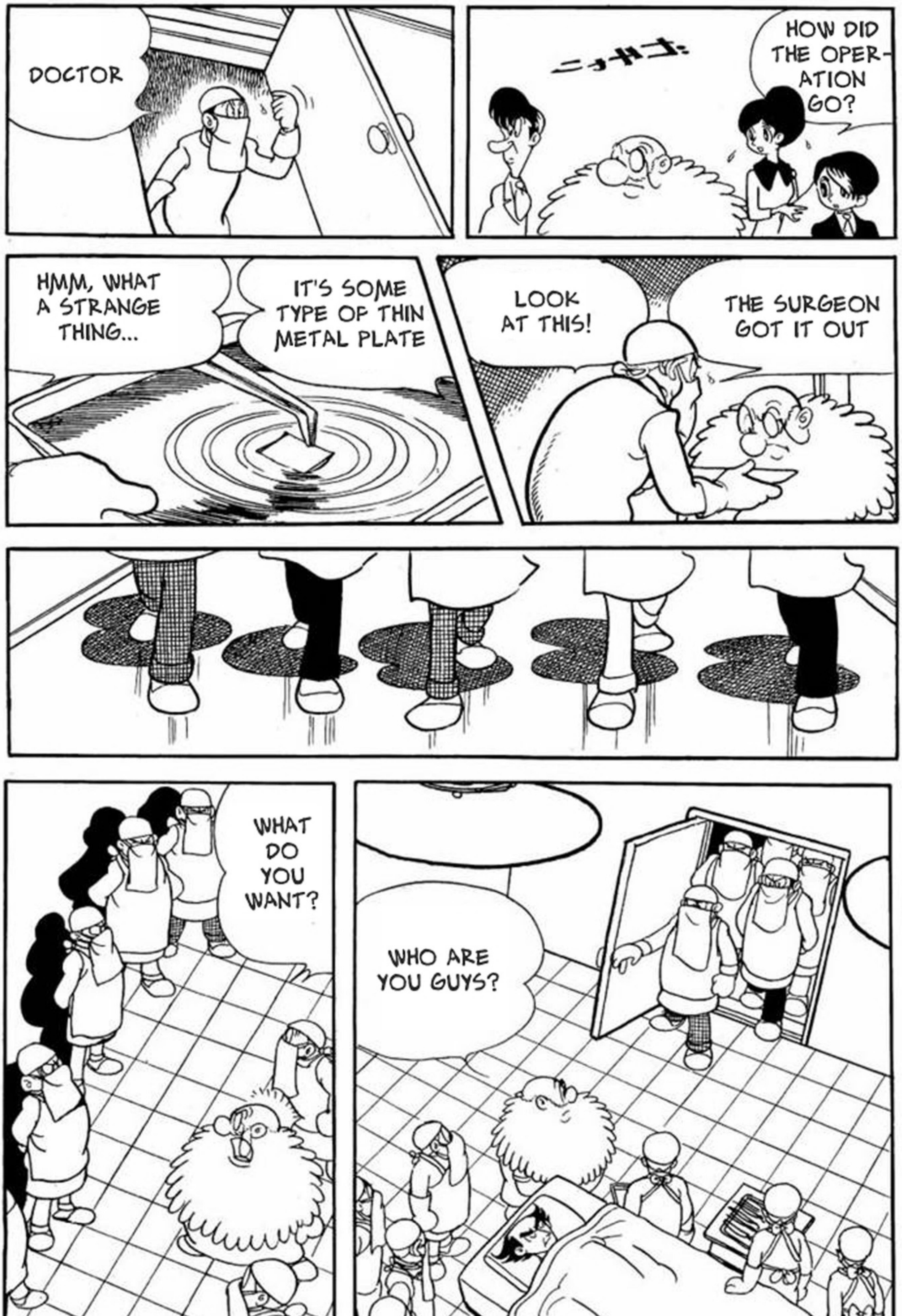



20 YEARS LATER
FEBRUARY 7, 1965
TOKYO
DRIVER! LET'S GET GOING QUICKLY!
TO THE HOSPITAL ... IT'S AN APPENDICITIS
GO STRAIGHT TO THE RED CROSS HOSPITAL
Y-YE-YESSIR!

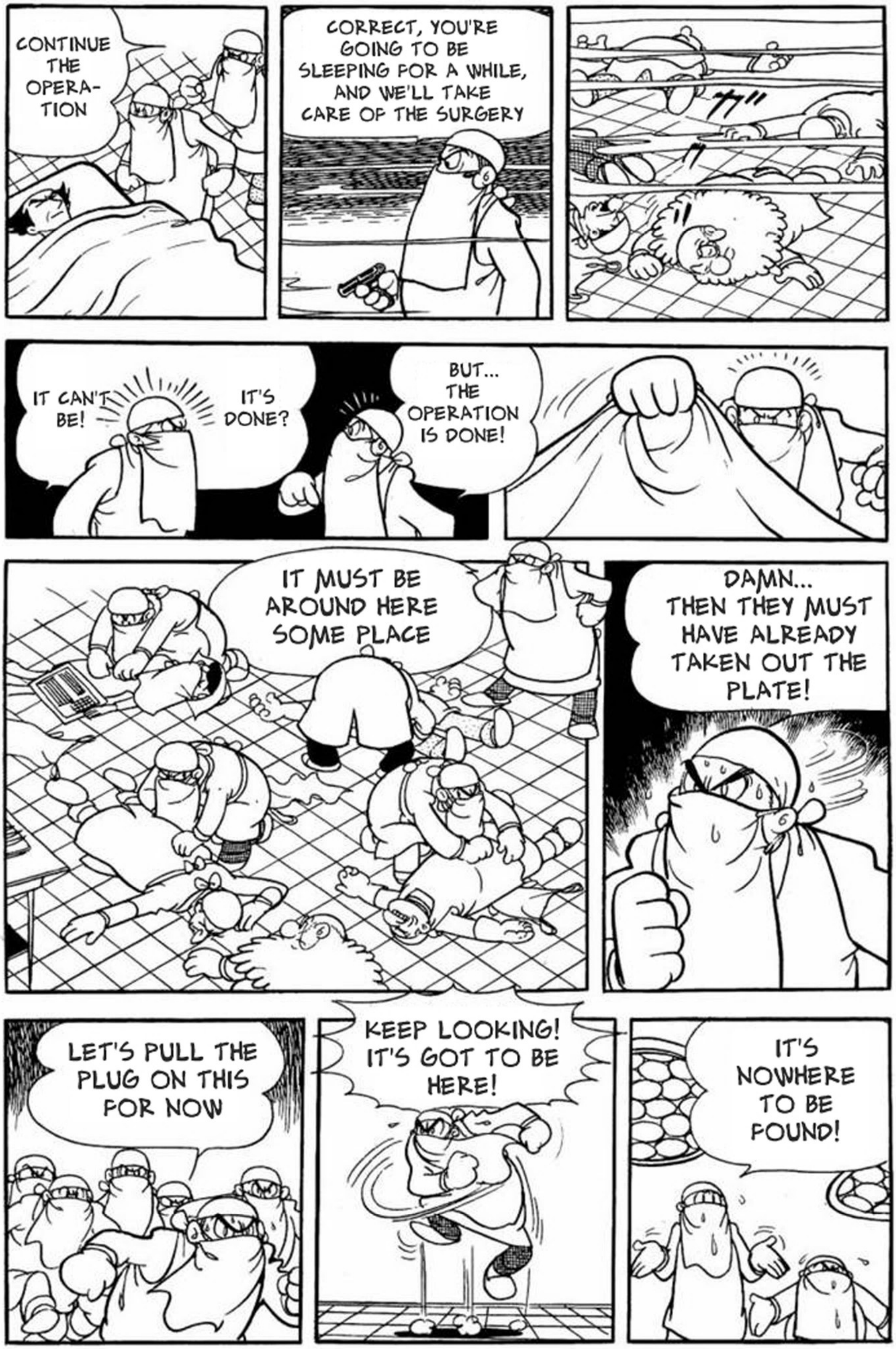

WHAT?
MY HUSBAND...
AT THE HOSPITAL?
HE HAS A SUDDEN STOMACH ACH?
YES! I WILL BE RIGHT THERE!
MOM? WHAT'S WRONG WITH DAD?
HE HAD A STOMACH ACHE AND HAD TO HAVE SURGERY
HEATHER, WHAT IS GOING ON?
I'M GOING HOME!
SHEESH
WE FOUND THIS THING HERE ON THE X RAY
OH! WHAT IS IT AND HOW DID IT GET THERE?
YOUR HUSBAND HAD AN OPERATION FOR APPENDICITIS LONG AGO, AND THIS WAS PUT IN HIM.


HE'S HAVING SURGERY RIGHT NOW. I CAN TAKE IT OUT.
手術室
MISS... YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL
OH?
HELLO? WHO IS THIS?
IT'S ME... IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME EH?
YOU!
ARE YOU REALLY SO SURPRIZED?
I HEAR YOUR HUSBAND IS HOSPITALIZED, RIGHT MADAM?
YES, BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I'M DISPLEASED YOU'VE NEGLECTED TO REPORT IN.
NUMBER 47. HAVE YOU FORGOT YOUR TRAINING? NO ROMANCE.
AREN'T YOU STILL ONE OF US?
YES, BUT.. DON'T PUT THIS ON ME NOW

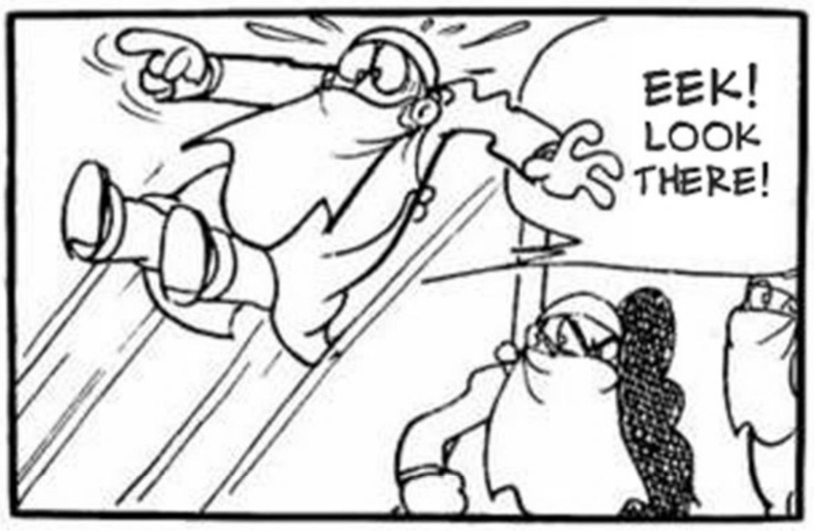

YOU'RE HERE TO UNCOVER THE SECRETS OF BIG X. YOU EVEN MARRIED ASAGUMO FOR THIS PURPOSE!
YES..... BUT... WE HAD A BABY...
SO I JUST...
WELL...
I FORGOT ABOUT IT.
MADAME YOU'LL BE KILLED AS A TRAITOR IF YOU FORGET YOUR MISSION
PLEASE FORGIVE ME! I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WISH!
START TALK-ING
強力保健剤
...YES...IN THE STOMACH... A STRANGE OBJECT... HE'S IN SURGERY...
.....
WHO WAS ON THE PHONE, MOM?
OH, IT'S NO-ONE


DOCTOR
HOW DID THE OPERATION GO?
HMM, WHAT A STRANGE THING...
IT'S SOME TYPE OF THIN METAL PLATE
LOOK AT THIS!
THE SURGEON GOT IT OUT
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?


HANDS UP! DON'T MAKE A FUSS AND GET AGAINST THE WALL!
AHH!
SECRET SOCIETY NAZI ALLIANCE!
WHAT? WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
AH! THE DOOR IS JAMMED!
IT'S BLOCKED FROM THE INSIDE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT A BUNCH OF CREEPS JUST SNUCK IN
QUICKLY! TAKE OFF YOUR MASKS
IT'S... IT'S HYPNOSIS GAS...
AIGH!


CONTINUE THE OPERA-TION
CORRECT, YOU'RE GOING TO BE SLEEPING FOR A WHILE, AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SURGERY
IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S DONE?
BUT... THE OPERATION IS DONE!
IT MUST BE AROUND HERE SOME PLACE
DAMN... THEN THEY MUST HAVE ALREADY TAKEN OUT THE PLATE!
LET'S PULL THE PLUG ON THIS FOR NOW
KEEP LOOKING! IT'S GOT TO BE HERE!
IT'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!


WHOA!

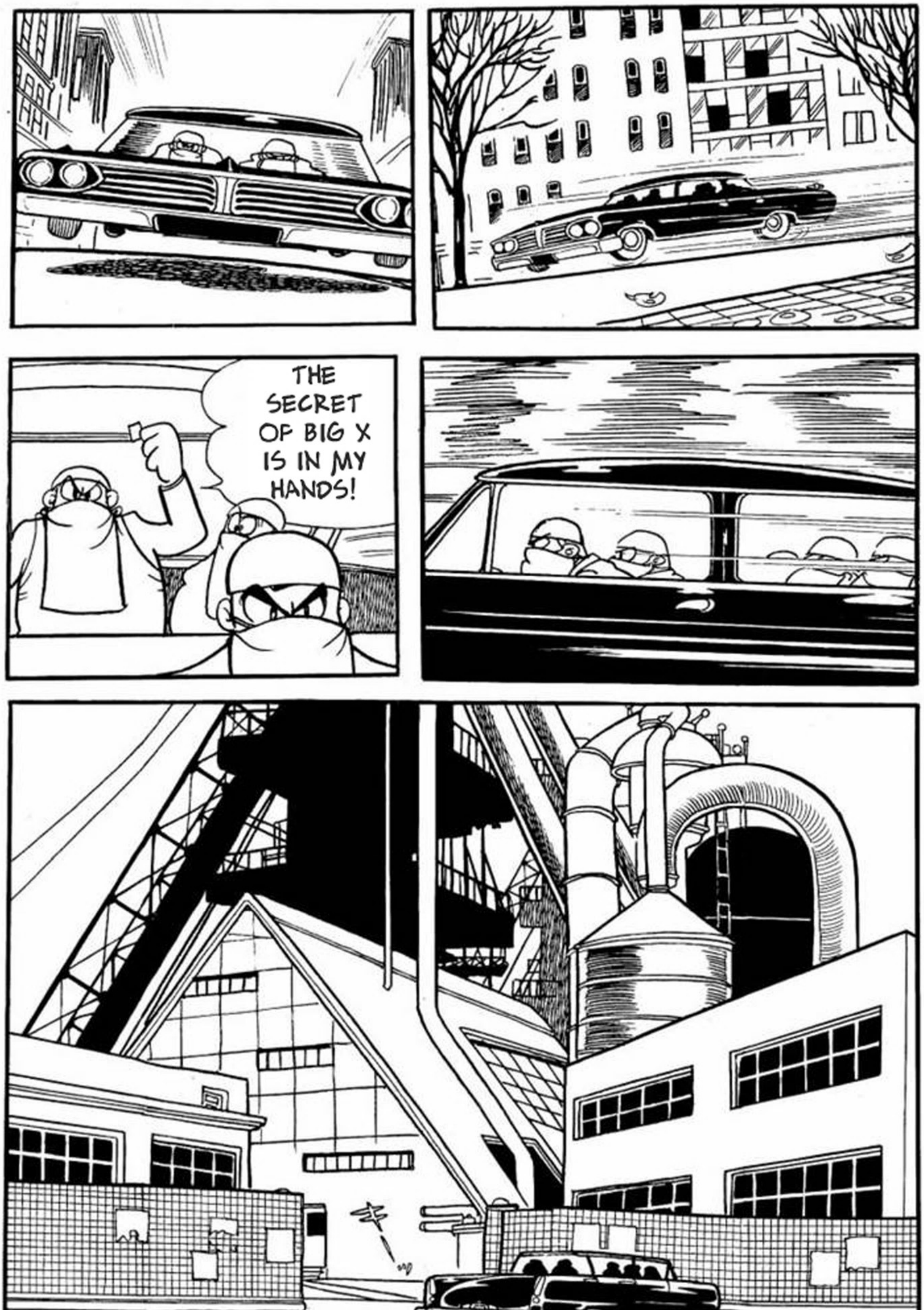

EEK! LOOK THERE!

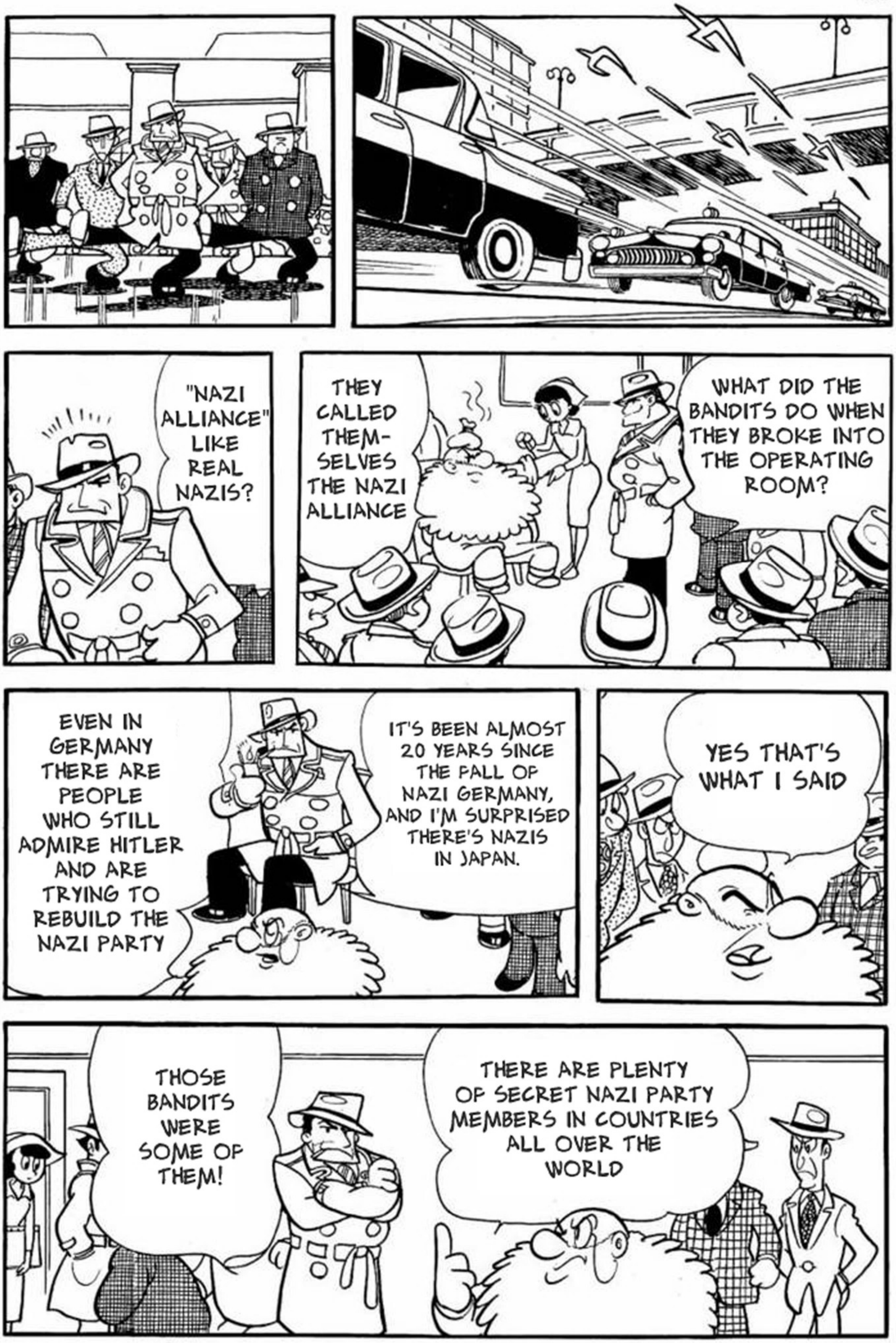



WAIT, IT'S A REFLECTION
THUS MAKING THIS SHADOW
IT'S JUST A DURALUMIN PLATE, BUT IT'S GOT THESE INVISIBLE BUMPS ON IT THAT REFLECT THE LIGHT ....
IT'S A REFLECTION OF THIS GUY

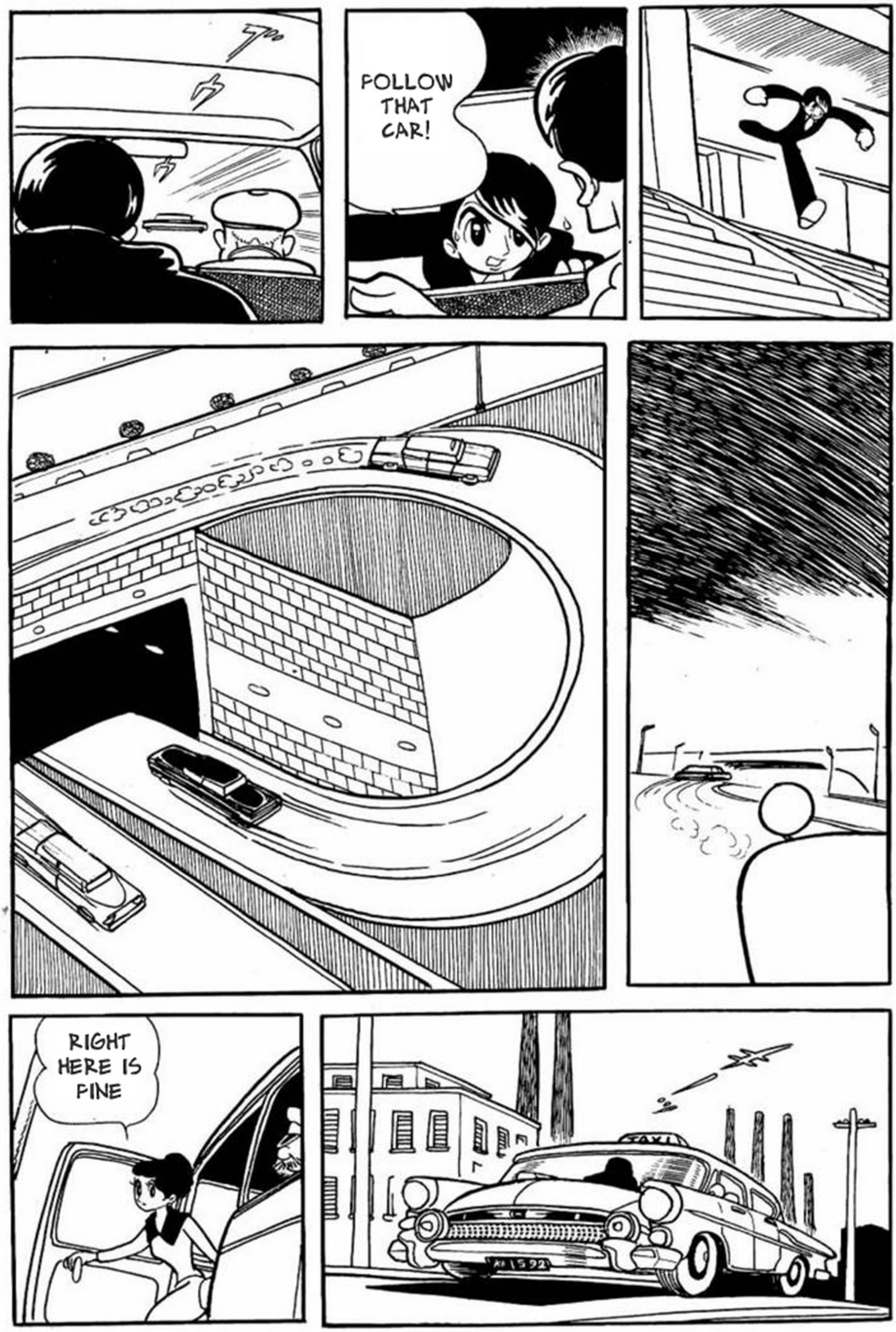

THERE'S WRITING
TRY THE OTHER SIDE
WHAT ARE YOU HANGING AROUND FOR? LET'S GET GOING!
THIS IS GOOD NEWS
THIS MUST BE THE SECRET PLANS OF BIG X
WELL THEN...

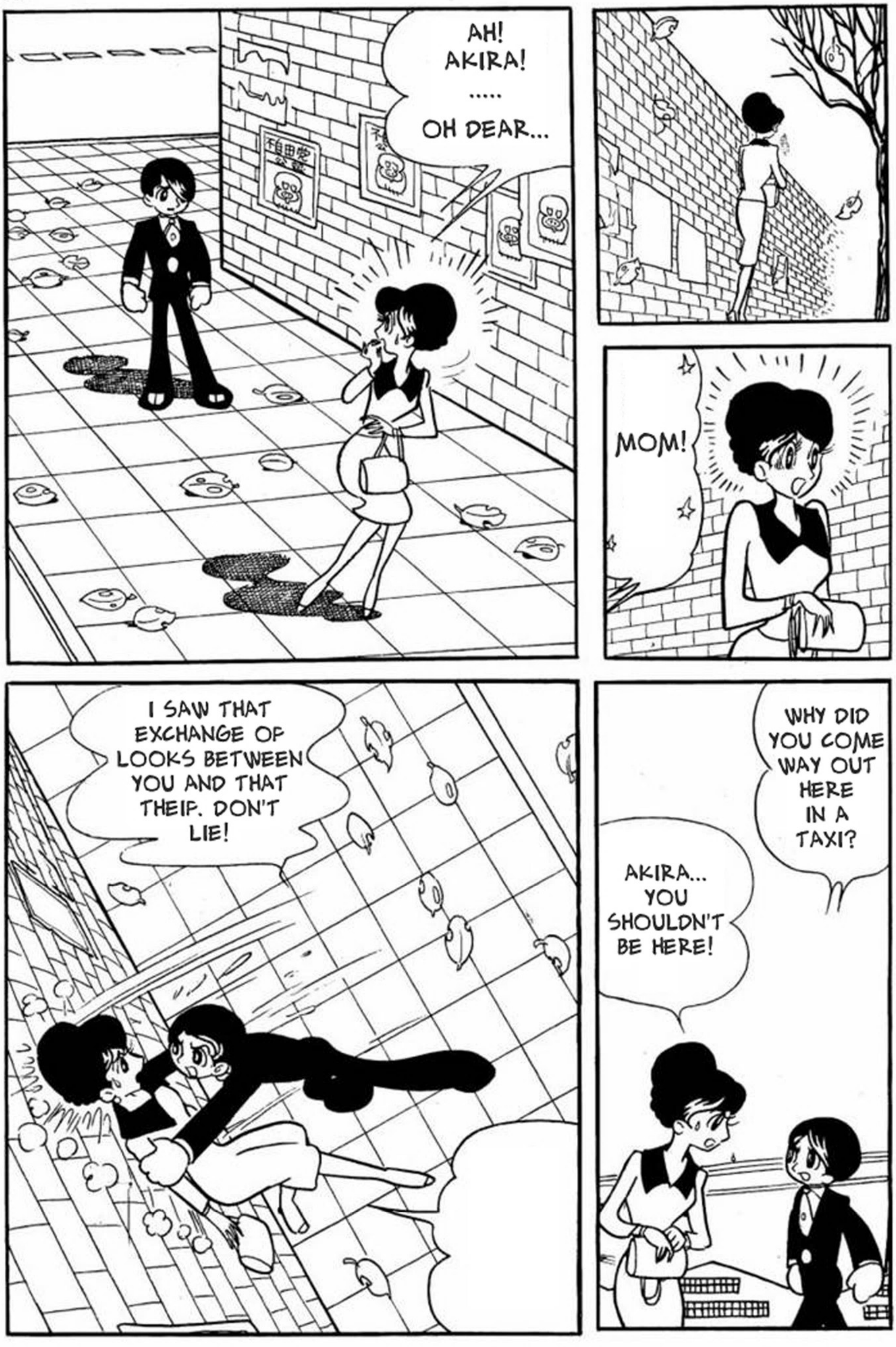

THAT DOCTOR KNOWS MY MOM?
......
AH !!
THOSE BASTARDS WEREN'T DOCTORS!


THE SECRET OF BIG X IS IN MY HANDS!


"NAZI ALLIANCE" LIKE REAL NAZIS?
THEY CALLED THEMSELVES THE NAZI ALLIANCE
WHAT DID THE BANDITS DO WHEN THEY BROKE INTO THE OPERATING ROOM?
EVEN IN GERMANY THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO STILL ADMIRE HITLER AND ARE TRYING TO REBUILD THE NAZI PARTY
IT'S BEEN ALMOST 20 YEARS SINCE THE FALL OF NAZI GERMANY, AND I'M SURPRISED THERE'S NAZIS IN JAPAN.
YES THAT'S WHAT I SAID
THOSE BANDITS WERE SOME OF THEM!
THERE ARE PLENTY OF SECRET NAZI PARTY MEMBERS IN COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD

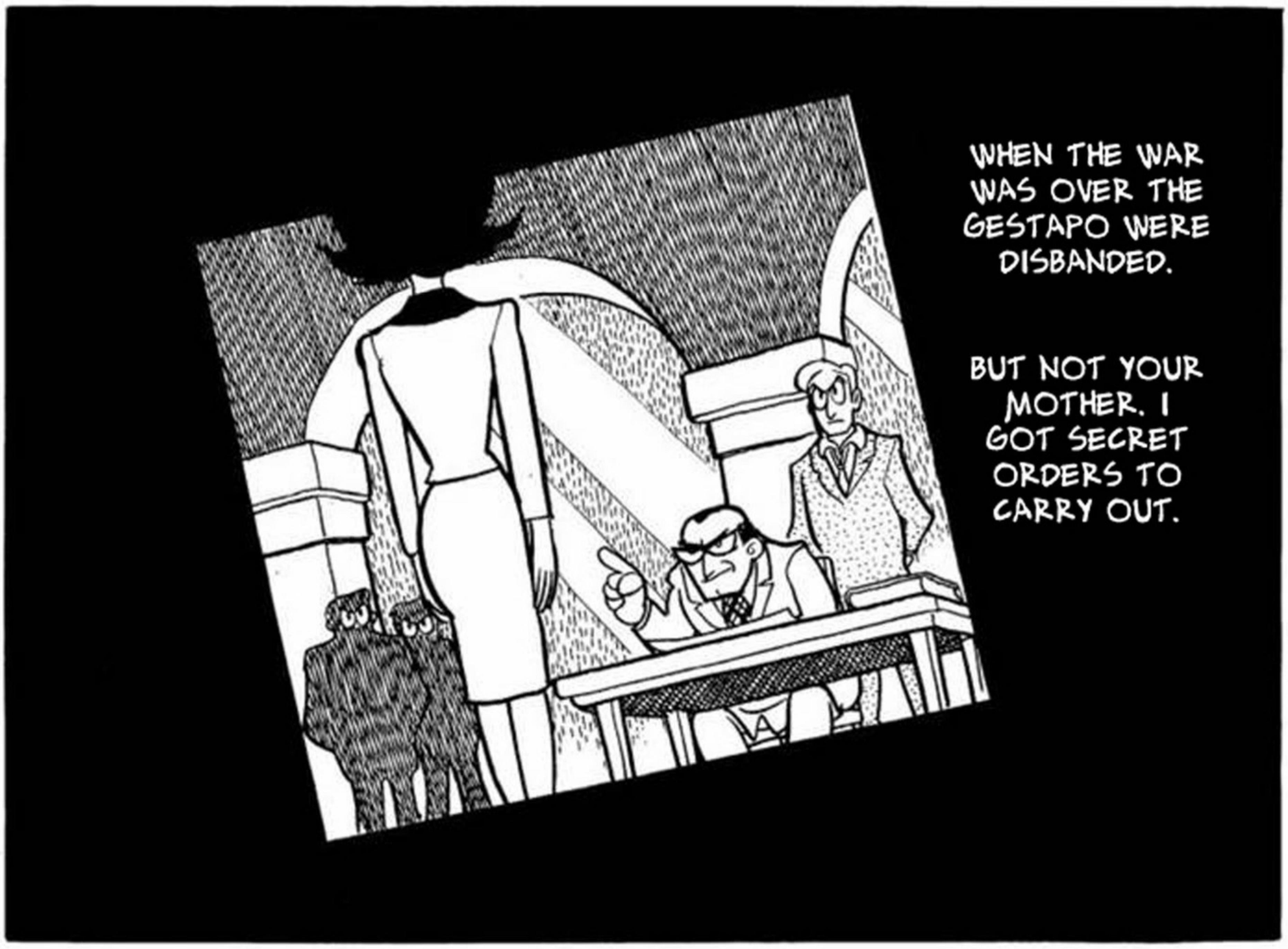

WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM YOUR STOMACH WAS A PIECE OF METAL. THAT IS WHAT WAS HURTING YOU. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT WAS?
I'VE NO IDEA
DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THAT PLATE HAS BEEN INSIDE YOU?
NO... NO I DON'T
I'M GOING TO GO DO A LITTLE SHOPPING
UM...
TO OMORI ...

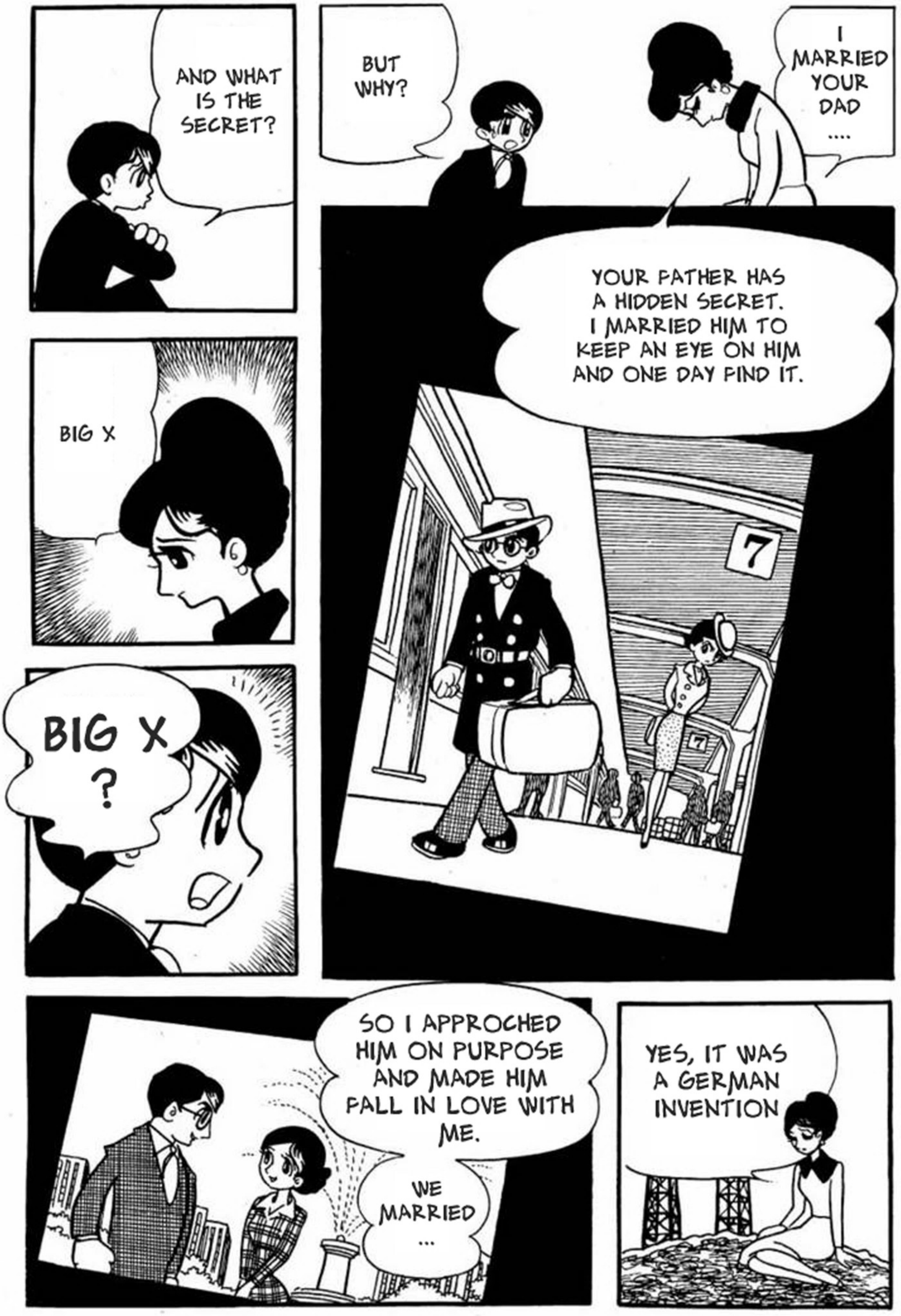

FOLLOW THAT CAR!
RIGHT HERE IS FINE


AH! AKIRA! ..... OH DEAR...
MOM!
I SAW THAT EXCHANGE OF LOOKS BETWEEN YOU AND THAT THEIF. DON'T LIE!
WHY DID YOU COME WAY OUT HERE IN A TAXI?
AKIRA... YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE!

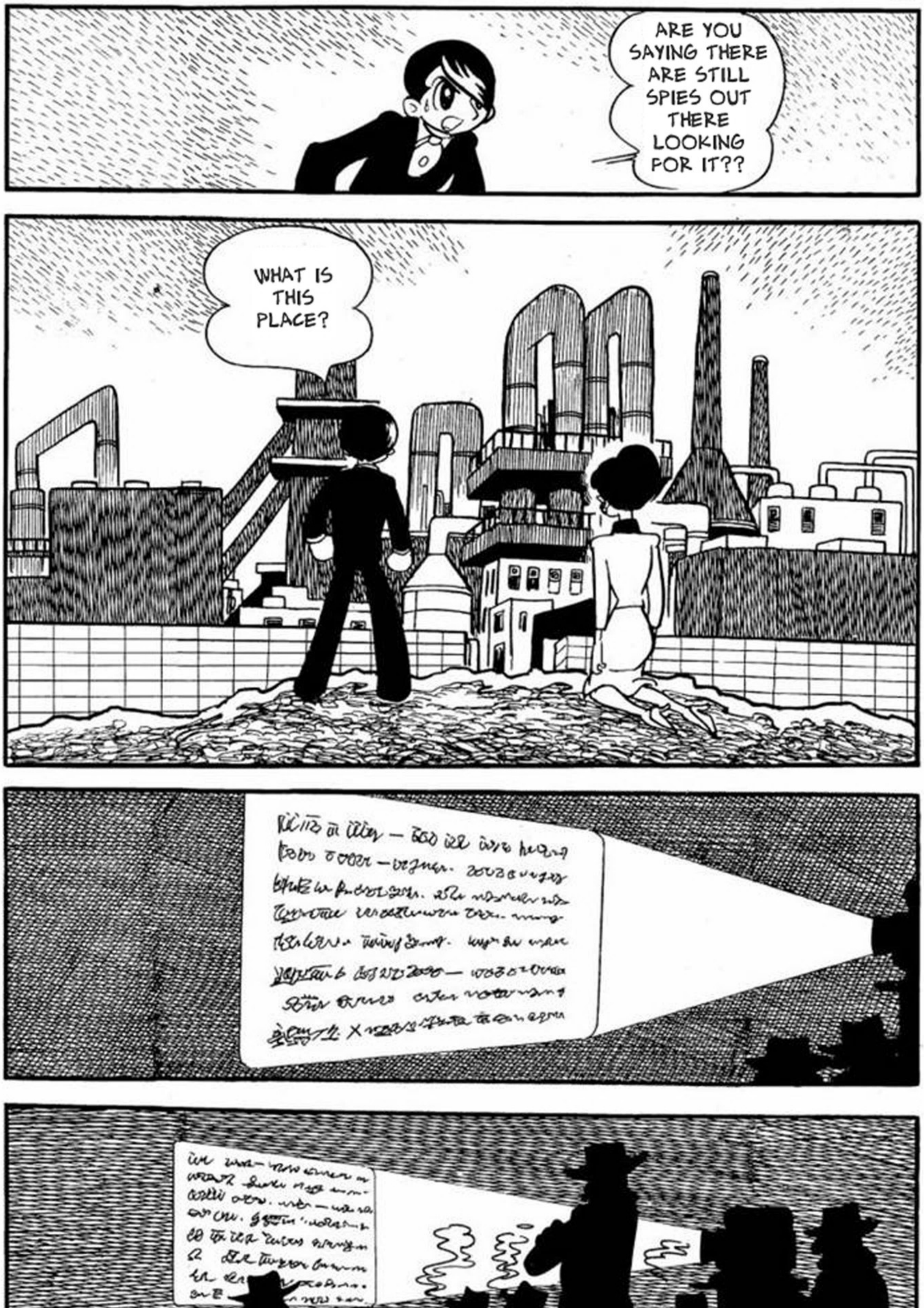

IF YOU CAN'T TELL ME ...
THEN I'M BREAKING ALL TIES WITH YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING FROM US, MOM?
WAIT, YOUR MOM HAS BEEN BAD
AKIRA!
YOU CAN FIND SOME OTHER KID TO RAISE
WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
DON'T BE SHOCKED BY WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU
I DIDN'T WANT YOU OR YOUR DAD TO KNOW... I WANTED IT TO BE A SECRET FOREVER...
I WAS A SPY TRAINED BY THE GESTAPO WHEN I WAS YOUNG
......
YOUR MOTHER ISN'T REALLY JAPANESE, BUT A MIXED-RACE CHILD OF GERMAN AND CHINESE.


THE GESTAPO RECRUITED BOYS AND GIRLS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO BECOME SPIES.
I WAS NUMBER 47


WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER THE GESTAPO WERE DISBANDED.
BUT NOT YOUR MOTHER. I GOT SECRET ORDERS TO CARRY OUT.


AND WHAT IS THE SECRET?
BUT WHY?
I MARRIED YOUR DAD ....
YOUR FATHER HAS A HIDDEN SECRET. I MARRIED HIM TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM AND ONE DAY FIND IT.
BIG X
BIG X ?
7
SO I APPROCHED HIM ON PURPOSE AND MADE HIM FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.
WE MARRIED ...
YES, IT WAS A GERMAN INVENTION


YOUR MOM WOUND UP TRULY FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOUR FATHER
BUT WE LIVED TO-GETHER FOR A LONG TIME
I WANTED TO FORGET MY PAST AS A SPY AND JUST LIVE MY LIFE WITH YOU AND YOUR FATHER.
AND THEN YOU WERE BORN
I DON'T CARE IF YOU AREN'T JAPANESE... BUT BEING A SPY
I'M SORRY ... AS A MATTER OF FACT...
I'M DONE.... WE ALL CAME HERE TO FIND THE SECRET OF BIG X.
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND
YES, BECAUSE I WANT TO BE YOUR MOM ....
WILL YOU STOP SPYING ON US?

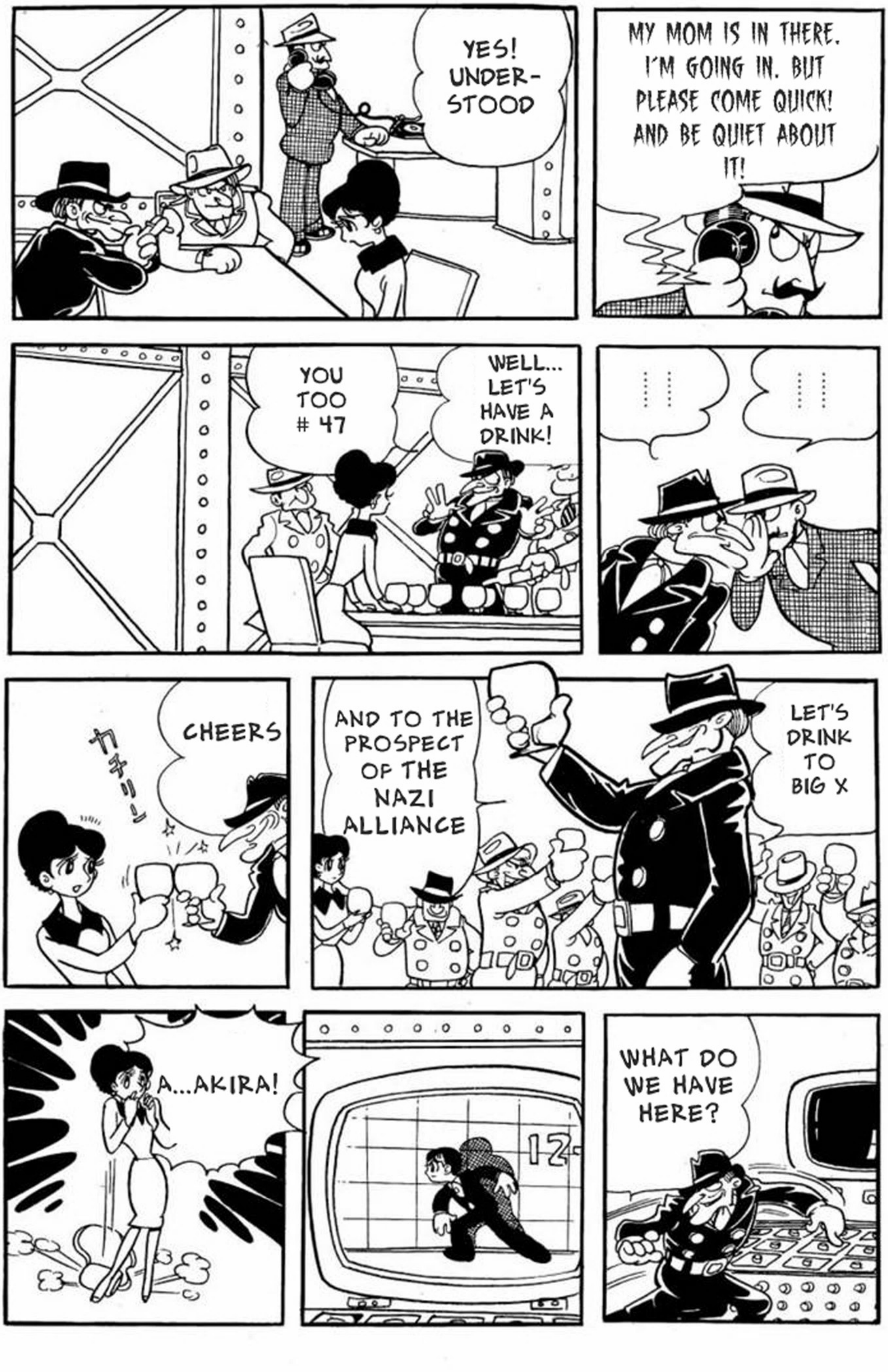

ARE YOU SAYING THERE ARE STILL SPIES OUT THERE LOOKING FOR IT??
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?



34. COPY THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING BIG X.
OKAY BOSS!
YES! IT IS THE SECRET PLATE WITH THE DATA FOR BUILDING BIG X!
47 HAS SHOWN UP!
カチッ
IF SHE TRIES ANYTHING FUNNY, WE'LL MAKE HER DISAPPEAR.
I'M SUSPICIOUS OF 47.
YEAH, WE'VE HAD TROUBLE WITH HER IN THE PAST
LET HER IN
カシャッ!



*110 IS THE EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR POLICE IN JAPAN


YES! UNDER-STOOD
MY MOM IS IN THERE. I'M GOING IN. BUT PLEASE COME QUICK! AND BE QUIET ABOUT IT!
YOU TOO # 47
WELL... LET'S HAVE A DRINK!
......
......
LET'S DRINK TO BIG X
AND TO THE PROSPECT OF THE NAZI ALLIANCE
CHEERS
カチリ
A...AKIRA!
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?


OH NO!
NOW ISN'T THIS AN INTERESTING SIGHT?
#47 I KNEW YOU WOULD BETRAY US
QUICKLY! GIVE ME THE BIG X PLATE!
VERY WELL, BUT ....
COME ON!!
I'M TAKING IT BACK TO MY HUSBAND
QUICK! GIVE IT!
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOUR BOY?
OBVIOUSLY I'M NO LONGER IN YOUR NAZI ALLIANCE
HAI!


GRAB EM!
AW, IS MADAM FEELING A LITTLE SLEEPY?
AKIRA! YOU MUST ESCAPE! RUN AWAY!
HAIYA!
THIS WAS FOOL-ISH!


THESE FREAKIN GUYS
WHAAAAAAAGHH

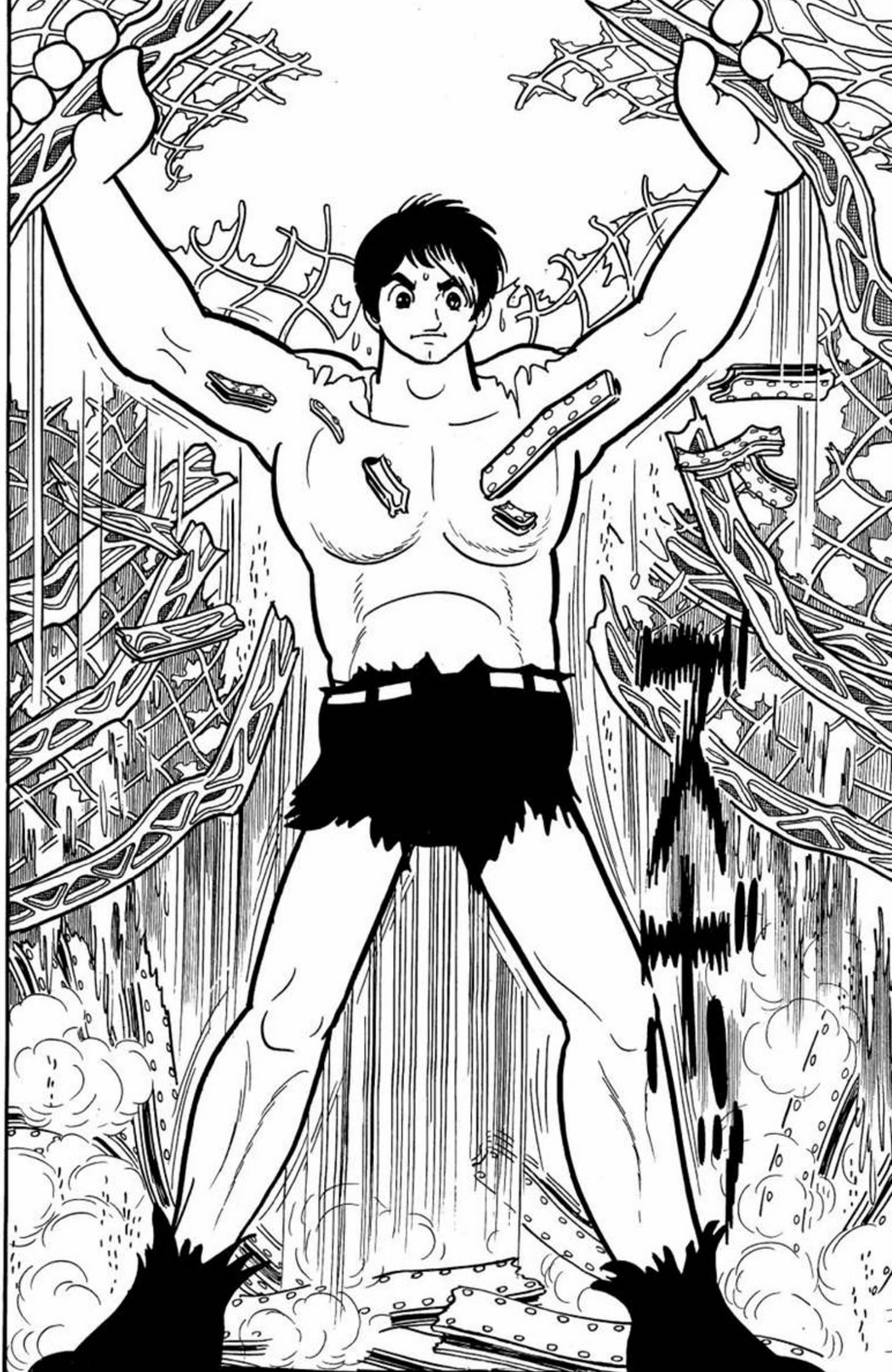

MMMMMPH
AKIRA
MOM!
SHIT! THESE DAMN SPIES!
SHEESH THAT KID IS TOUGH
GET YOURSELF CLEANED UP
UGH...
AH... IT'S DONE!
I MADE IT ACCORDING TO THE BIG X MANU-FACTURING METHOD
SO THIS IS THE BIG X DRUG


INJECT IT INTO THIS CHUMP!
HMM.. THERE'S A GOOD TEST SUBJECT
SEEMS DANGEROUS TO INJECT THIS. IT MIGHT BE DEADLY
HERE WE GO. GET HIS ARM OUT
EVEN IF IT HE DOESN'T DIE FROM IT, WE'LL KILL HIM ONCE THE EXPERIMENT IS OVER.
THIS KID IS MORE USEFUL AS A GUINEA PIG ANYWAY.
NO! AKIRA!
OOOH...
UUAAAAAHHGG
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?

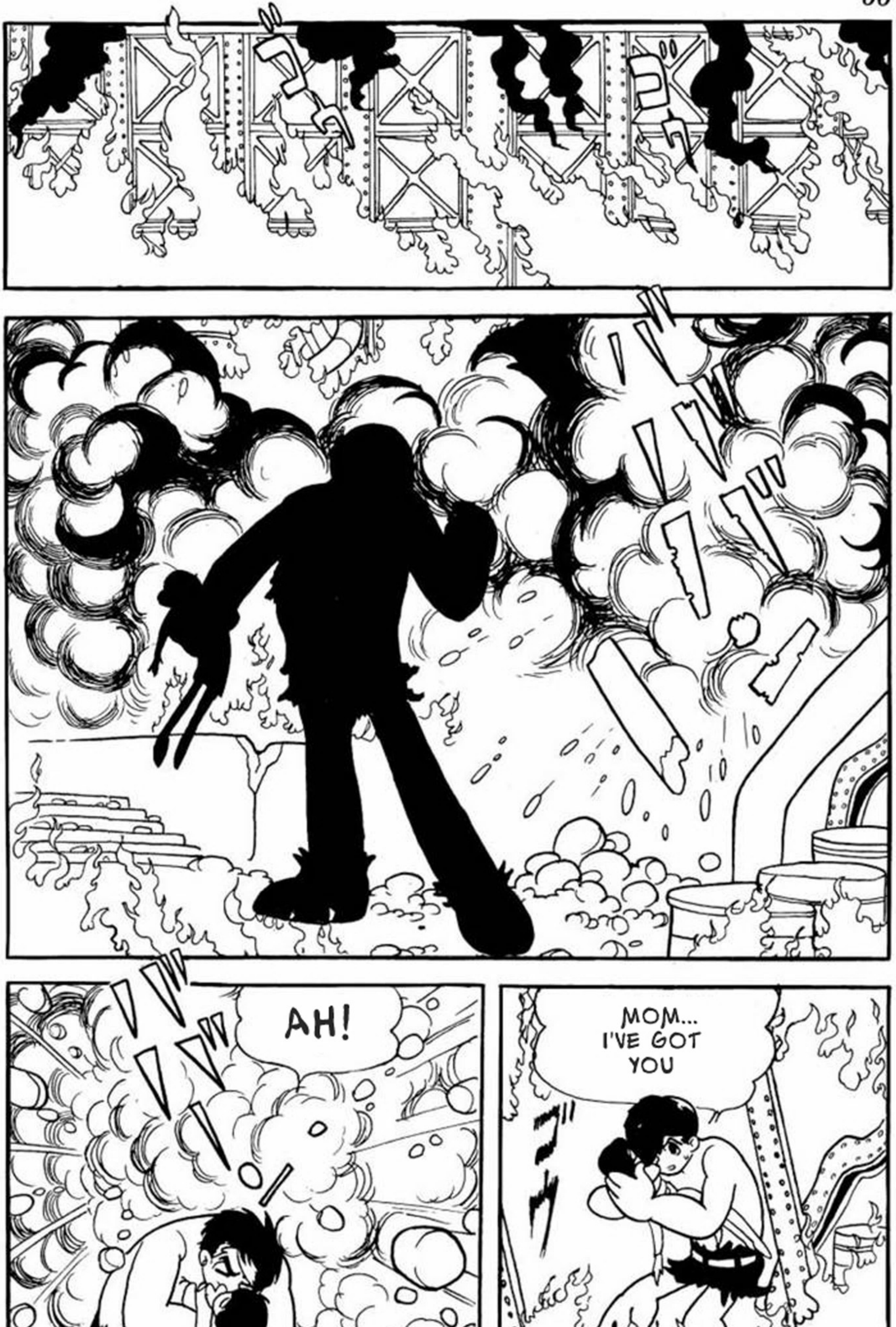

HE'S NOT DYING... LOOK AT HIS FACE!
WHA... WHAT THE HELL??
SHOOT! KILL EM!
HE'S IM-PERVIOUS! IT'S THE DAMN DRUG!
I'M HITTING HIM, BUT ...
AKIRA!

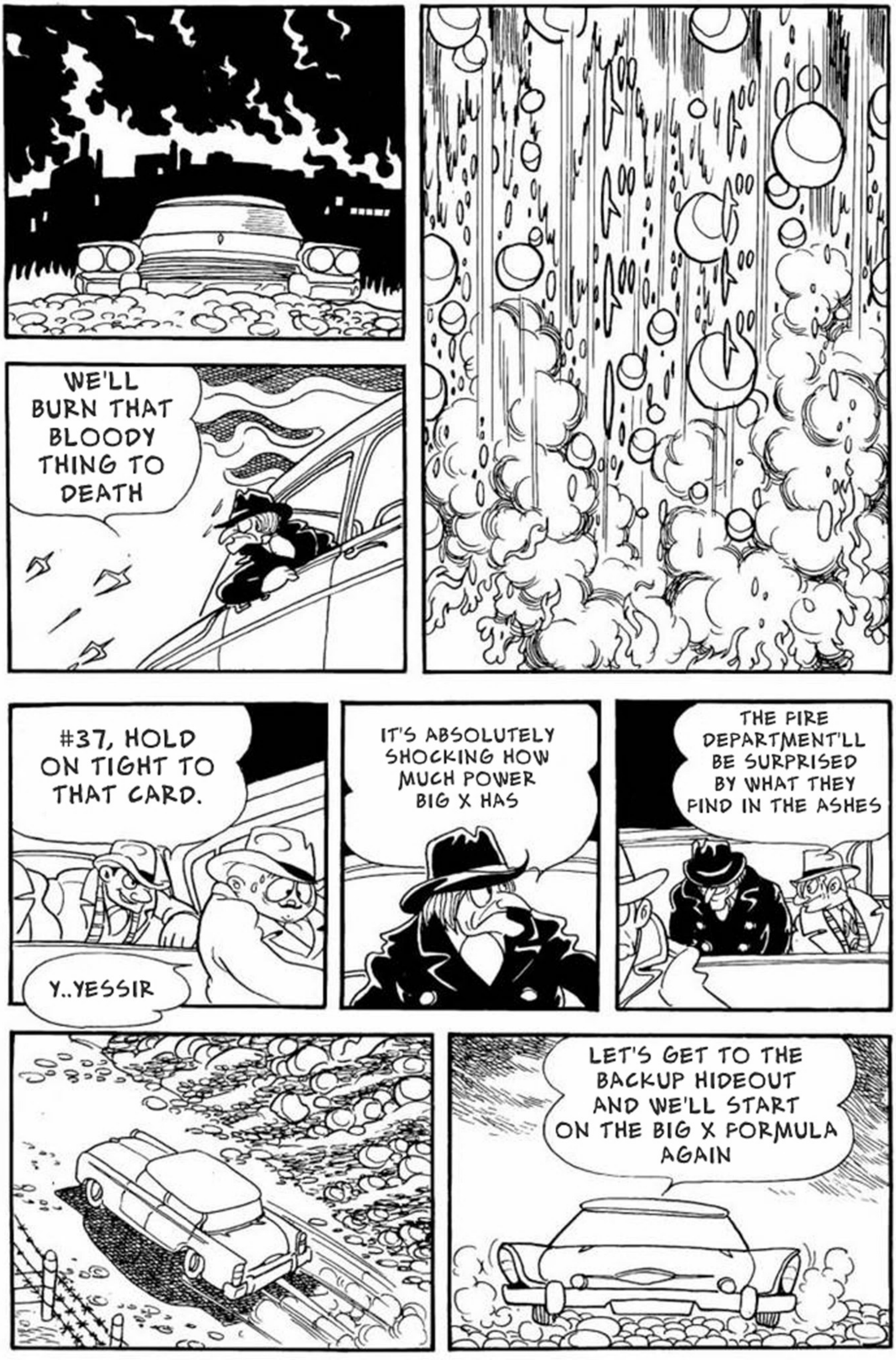

WHOA!
TAKE THIS
THAT'S TOO MUCH! RUN AWAY!
WAGH! WHAT IS THIS CRAP?!
SHOOT HIM IN THE HEAD!
IT LOOKS LIKE WHEN INJECTED THE BIG X DRUG MAKES HIM BIG AND POWERFUL

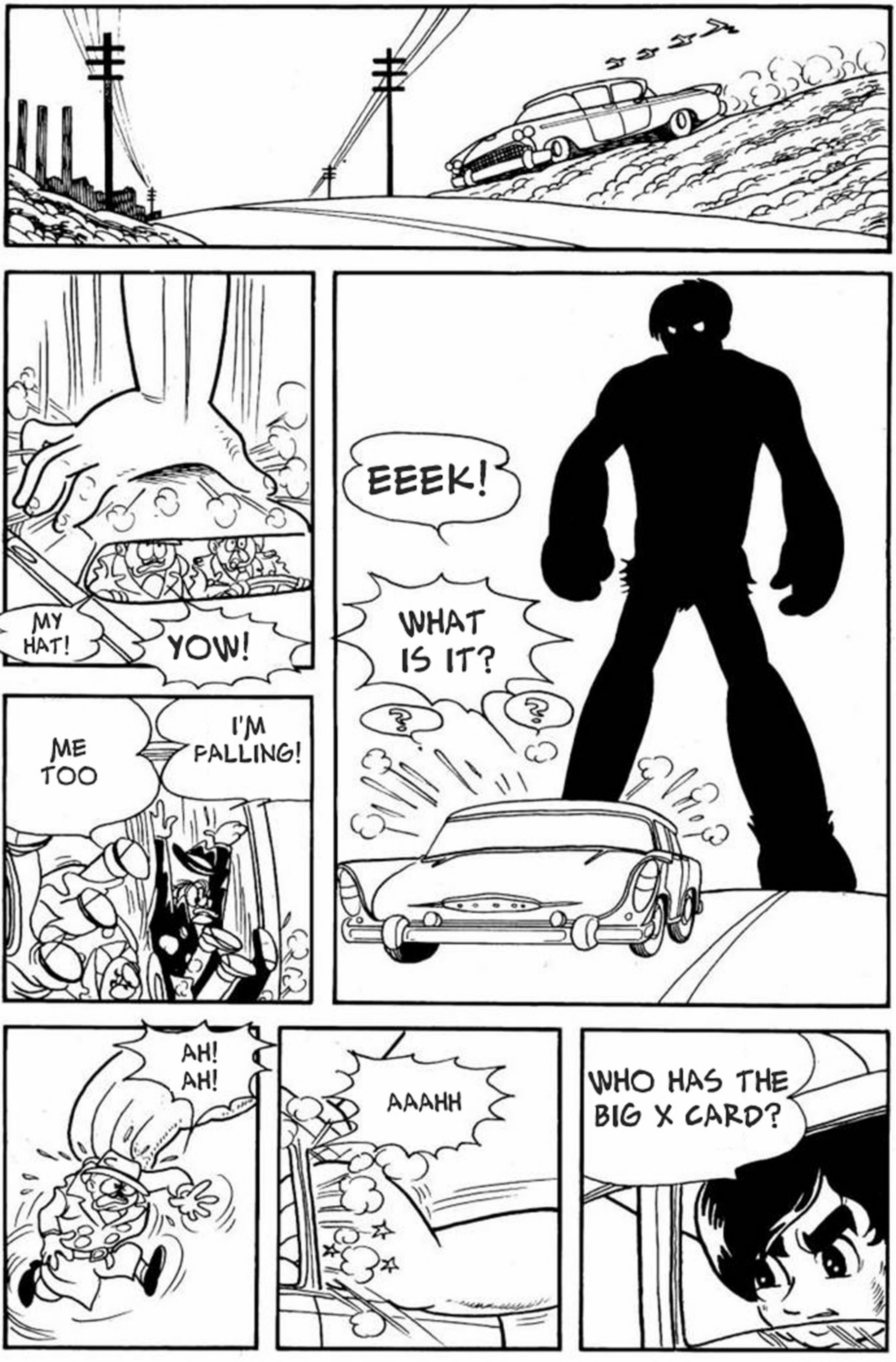

WOW!
LOOK OUT!
HIS SIZE! IT'S AMAZING! HE'S DESTROYED THE HIDEOUT
THE ROOF IS COLLAPSING!




EH?
WAGH!
IF BULLETS DON'T WORK MAYBE FIRE WILL!
I'LL BLOW HIM UP!


AH!
MOM...
I'VE GOT
YOU

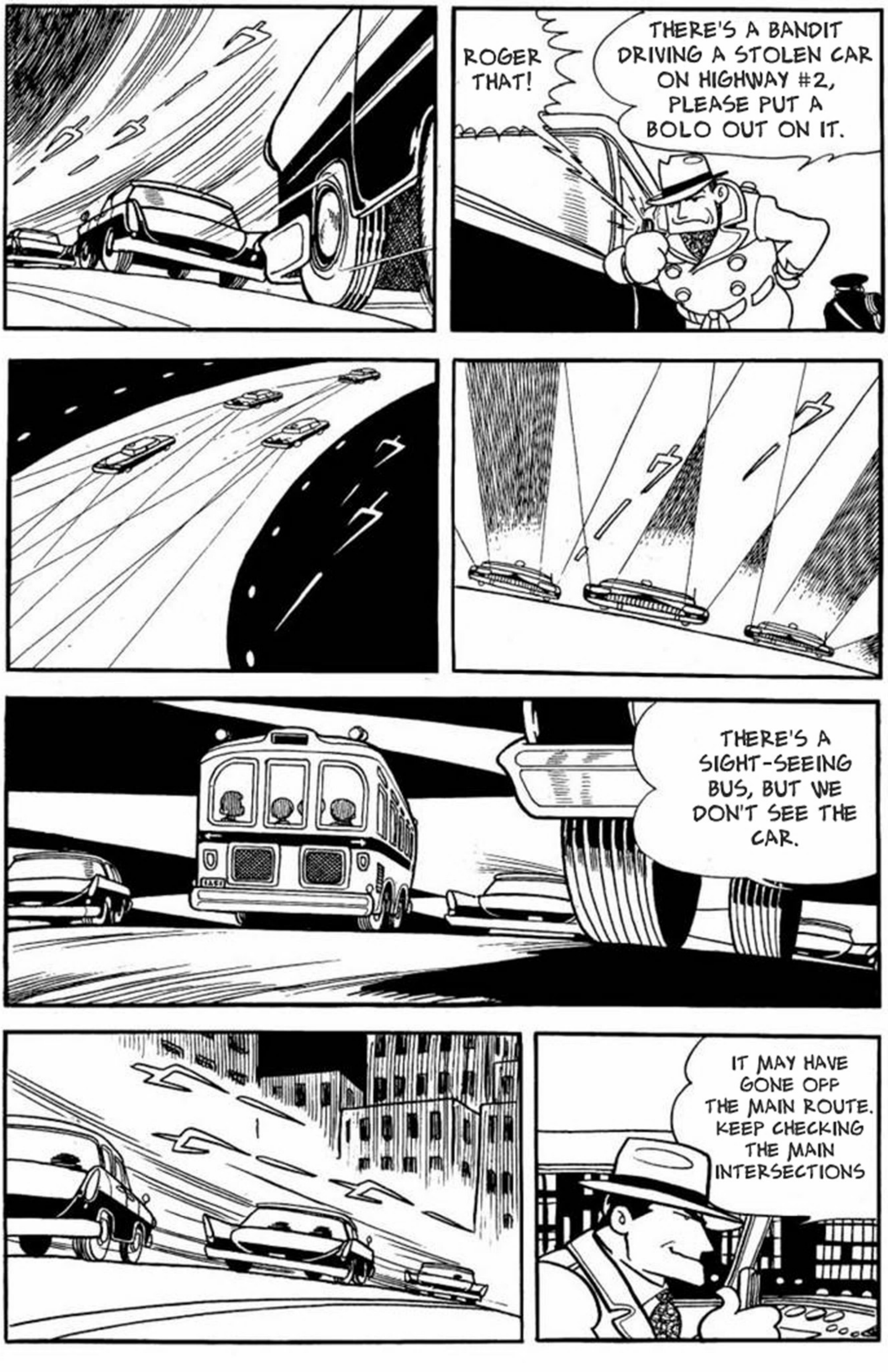

WE'LL BURN THAT BLOODY THING TO DEATH
#37, HOLD ON TIGHT TO THAT CARD.
Y..YESSIR
IT'S ABSOLUTELY SHOCKING HOW MUCH POWER BIG X HAS
THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'LL BE SURPRISED BY WHAT THEY FIND IN THE ASHES
LET'S GET TO THE BACKUP HIDEOUT AND WE'LL START ON THE BIG X FORMULA AGAIN

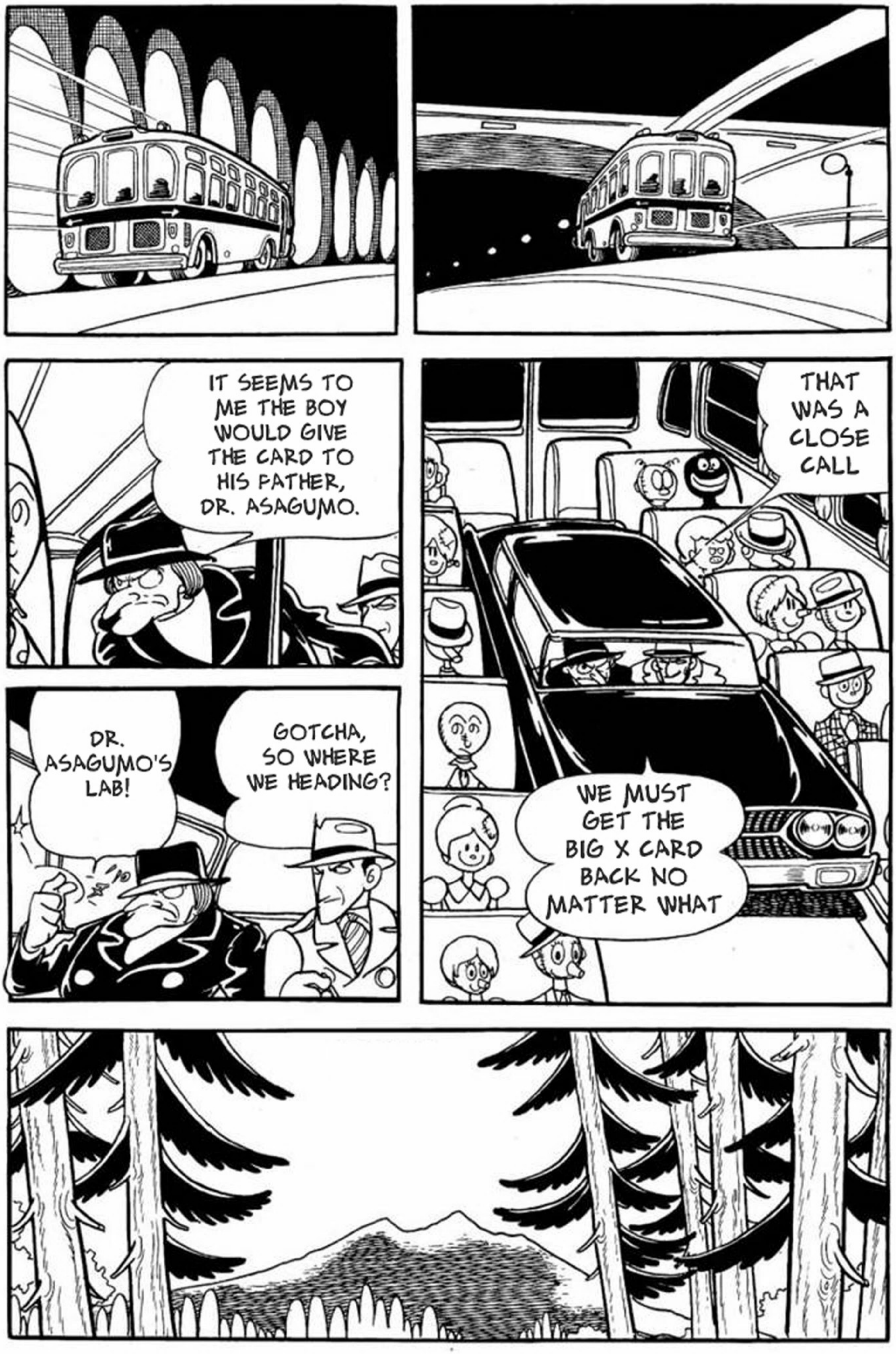

MY HAT!
YOW!
EEEK!
WHAT IS IT?
?
?
ME TOO
I'M FALLING!
AH! AH!
AAAHH
WHO HAS THE BIG X CARD?


I KNOW YOUR FACE. WHERE IS THE CARD
C-C-C-CARD ... THE C-C-C-CARD IS...
DAMMIT! HE'S GOING TO GET THE CARD!
AHHH!
グシャ
OUCH!
H-H-HERE! T-T-TAKE IT!
I DON'T WANNA DIE!
HUH? ....
MY BODY... IT'S RETURNING TO ITS ORIGINAL SIZE ...
SOMETHING IS HAPPENING TO HIM AGAIN


HE'S SHRINKING!
HE'S OUT OF JUICE
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
UGH...
IT HURTS ....
HE'S TURNING BACK INTO HIS OLD SELF. NOW WE CAN SHOOT EM!

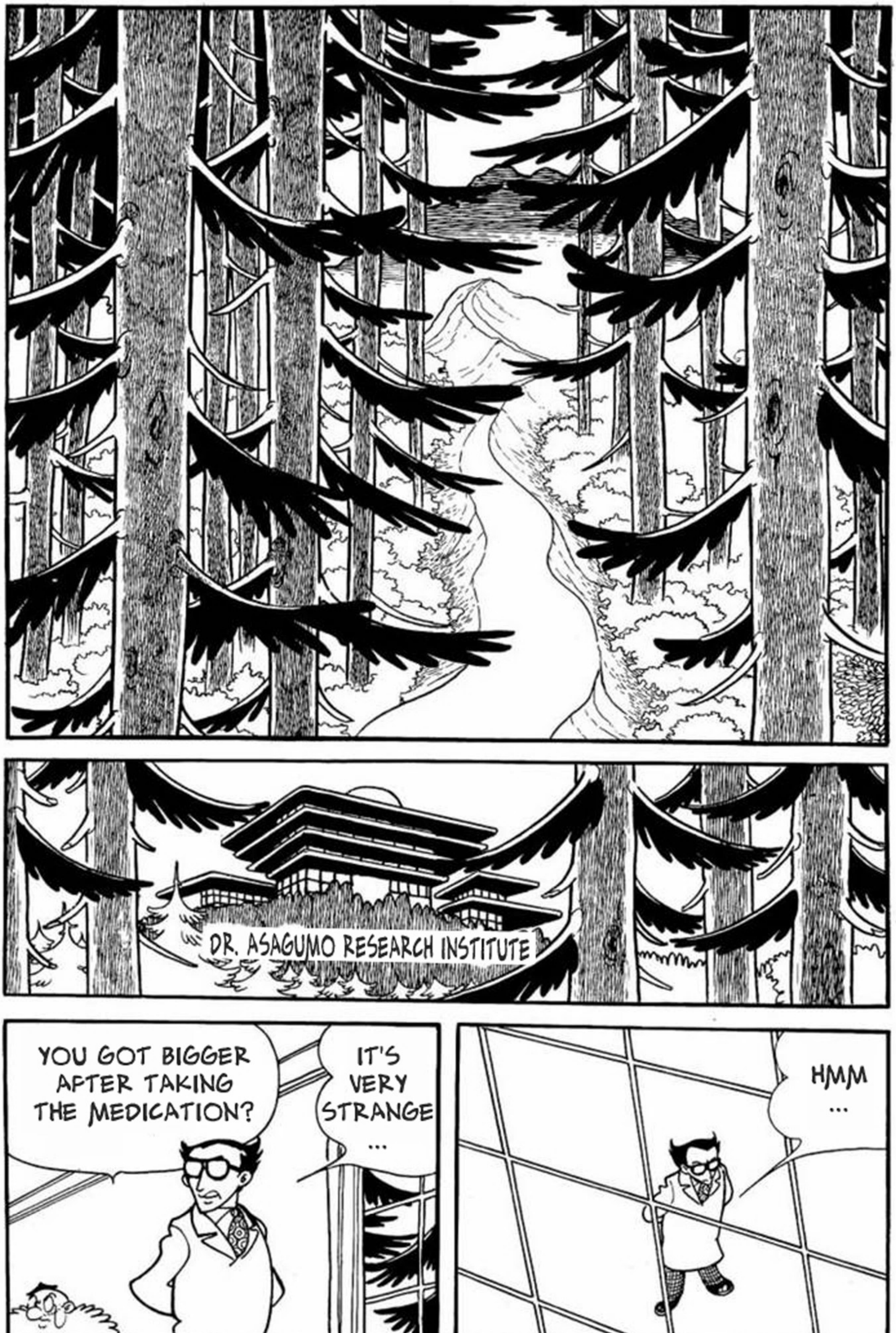

SHIT! IT'S THE POLICE!
IT'S A PITY WE HAVE TO SCRAM! BUT WE'LL GET THAT CARD BACK FROM YOU ONE DAY!
ピリピリピリピリ
YOUR DAD WAS WORRIED
YOU AND YOUR MOM HADN'T ARRIVED HOME SO I TRACKED DOWN YOUR TAXI AND HE BROUGHT US HERE.
OH AKIRA, IT'S YOU... AND YOUR MOM!
THEY'RE SPIES
NOW... WHO WERE THOSE GUYS?
AKIRA! YOU'RE SAFE ...
OH... MOTHER!


THERE'S A BANDIT DRIVING A STOLEN CAR ON HIGHWAY #2, PLEASE PUT A BOLO OUT ON IT.
ROGER THAT!
THERE'S A SIGHT-SEEING BUS, BUT WE DON'T SEE THE CAR.
IT MAY HAVE GONE OFF THE MAIN ROUTE. KEEP CHECKING THE MAIN INTERSECTIONS


IT SEEMS TO ME THE BOY WOULD GIVE THE CARD TO HIS FATHER, DR. ASAGUMO.
THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL
GOTCHA, SO WHERE WE HEADING?
DR. ASAGUMO'S LAB!
WE MUST GET THE BIG X CARD BACK NO MATTER WHAT



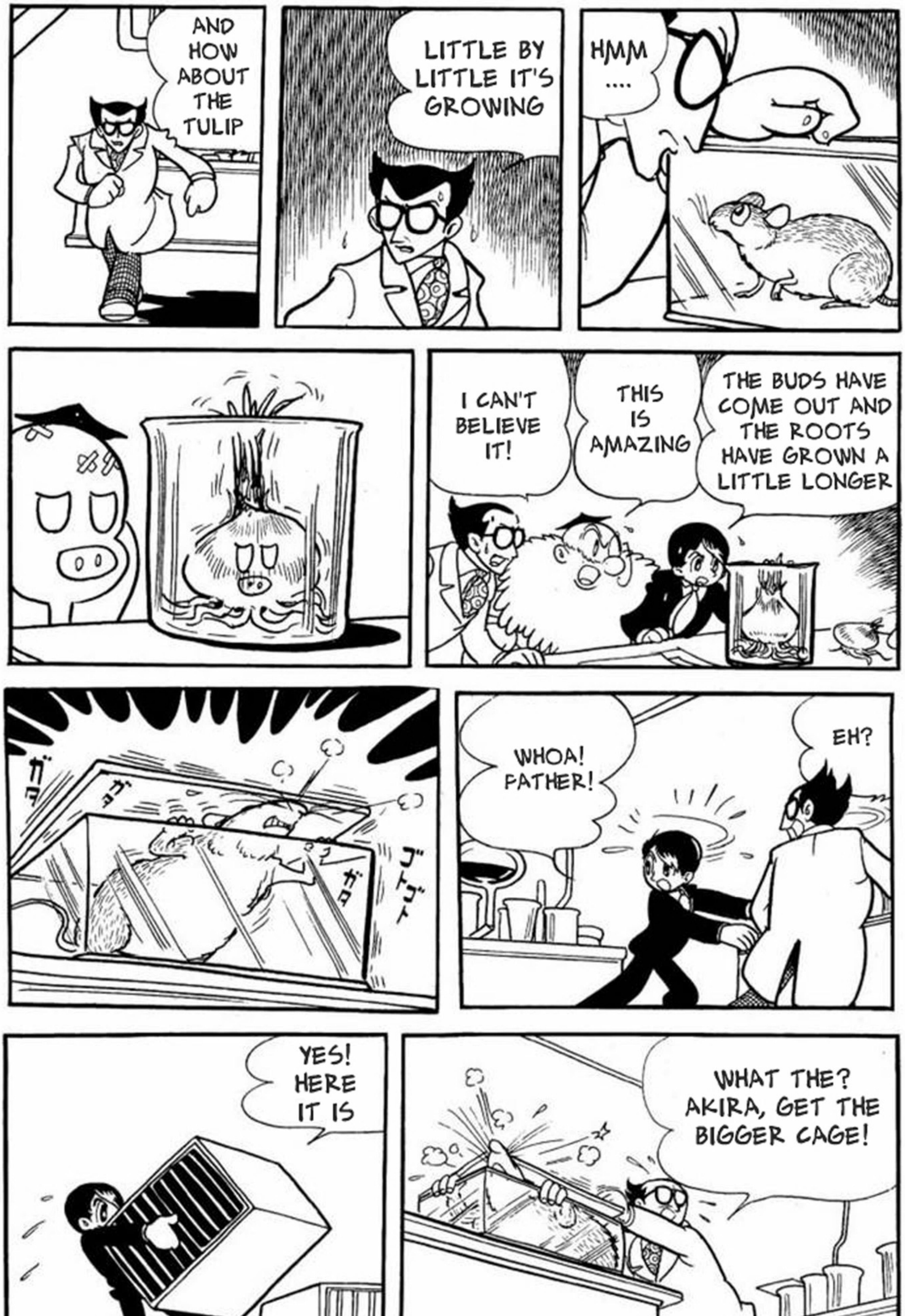
CHAPTER 2
THE GIANT RAT

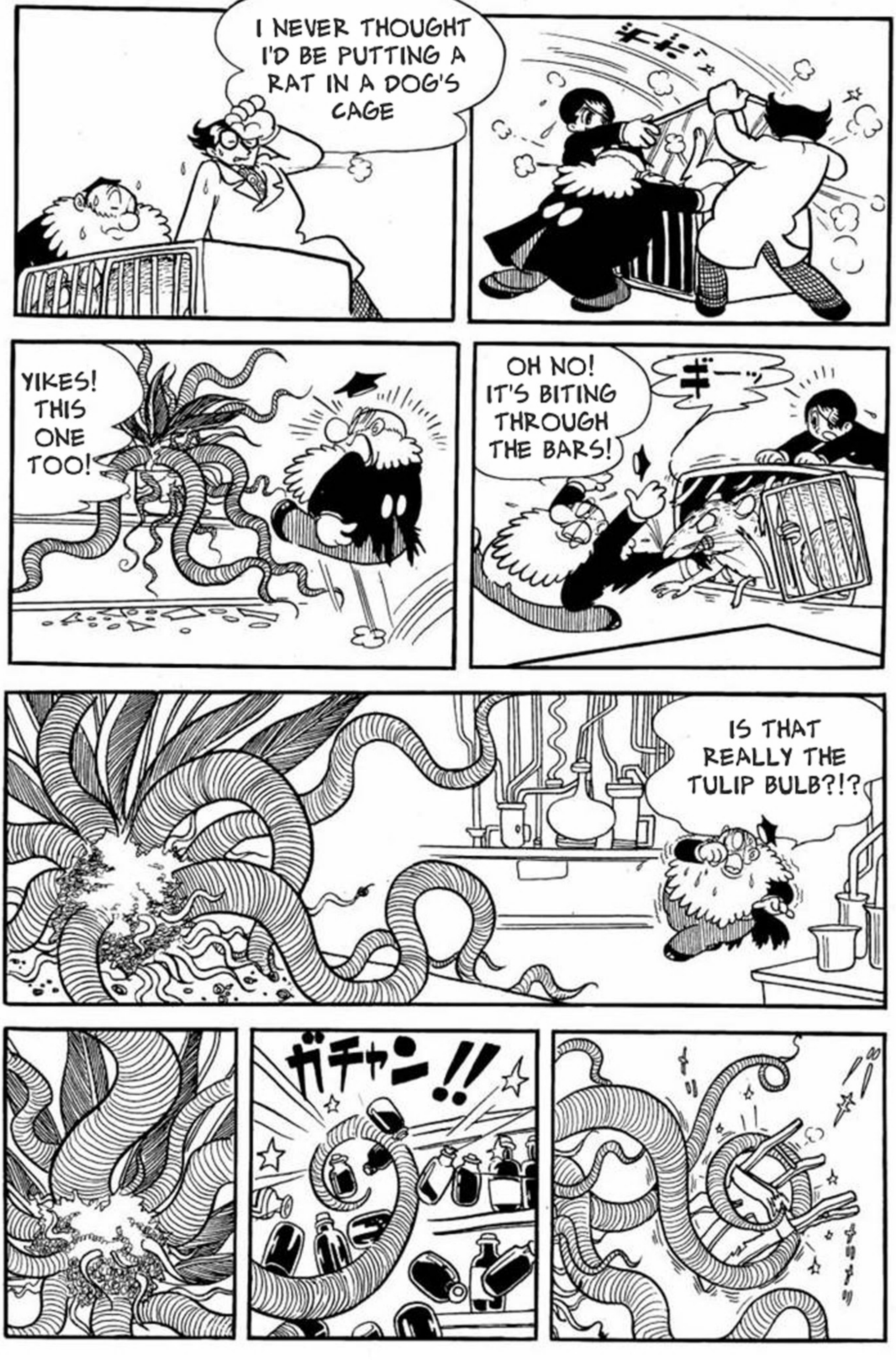

DR. ASAGUMO RESEARCH INSTITUTE
YOU GOT BIGGER AFTER TAKING THE MEDICATION?
IT'S VERY STRANGE ...
HMM ...

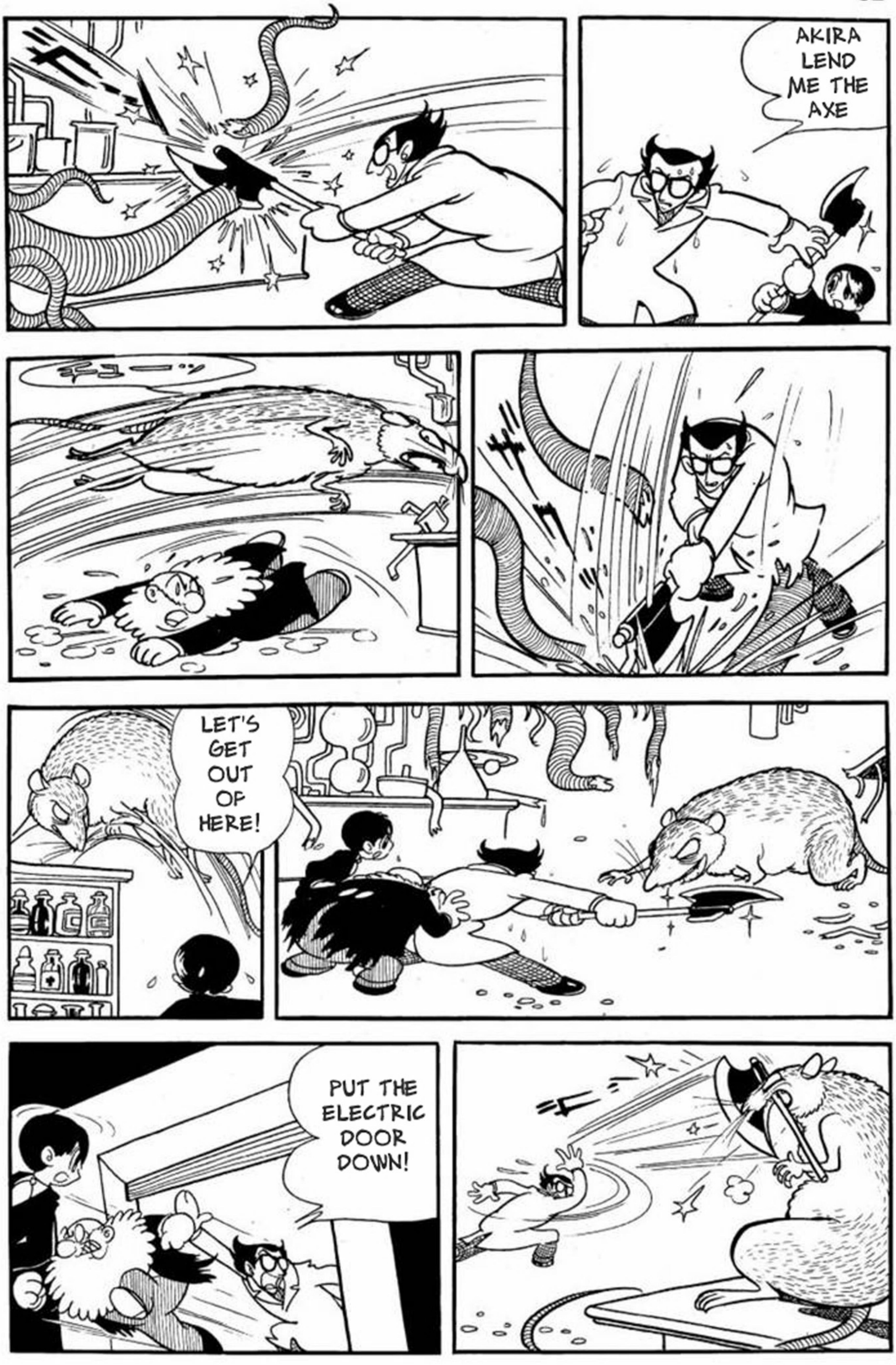

THAT'S FAN-TASTIC!
SO THAT IS THE POWER OF BIG X.
YEAH... AT THE TIME I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING.
BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT THE NAZIS CREATED BIG X FOR IN THE FIRST PLACE?
DR. HANAMARU, THIS FORUMLA COULD DOUBLE THE SIZE OF COWS. WE COULD END WORLD HUNGER!
YES, BUT IT WAS TO BE USED AS A NEW WEAPON. TO INJECT INTO MEN AND MAKE THEM INTO SUPER SOLDIERS
INTO TITANS!
HMM THERE'S ONLY US THREE HERE...
I HAVE A HUNCH THAT THIS POTION IS GOING TO BRING SOME KIND OF CATASTROPHE.
THAT IS WHY IT'S SO TERRIFYING


WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?
BIG X IS OURS
WE CAN'T LET THE SECRET OUT
ARE YOU SURE WE ARE THE ONLY THREE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT BIG X?
BIG X WAS MY FATHER'S SECRET THAT HE PUT INSIDE OF ME
WHAT THE HELL?
I'VE USED THE CARD'S FORMULA TO MAKE BIG X!
THAT'S DANGEROUS! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN!
PLEASE WAIT!
I'M GOING TO STUDY ITS EFFECTS ....
WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF THIS FORMULA WITHOUT EXPERIMENTING
I'M DOING IT!

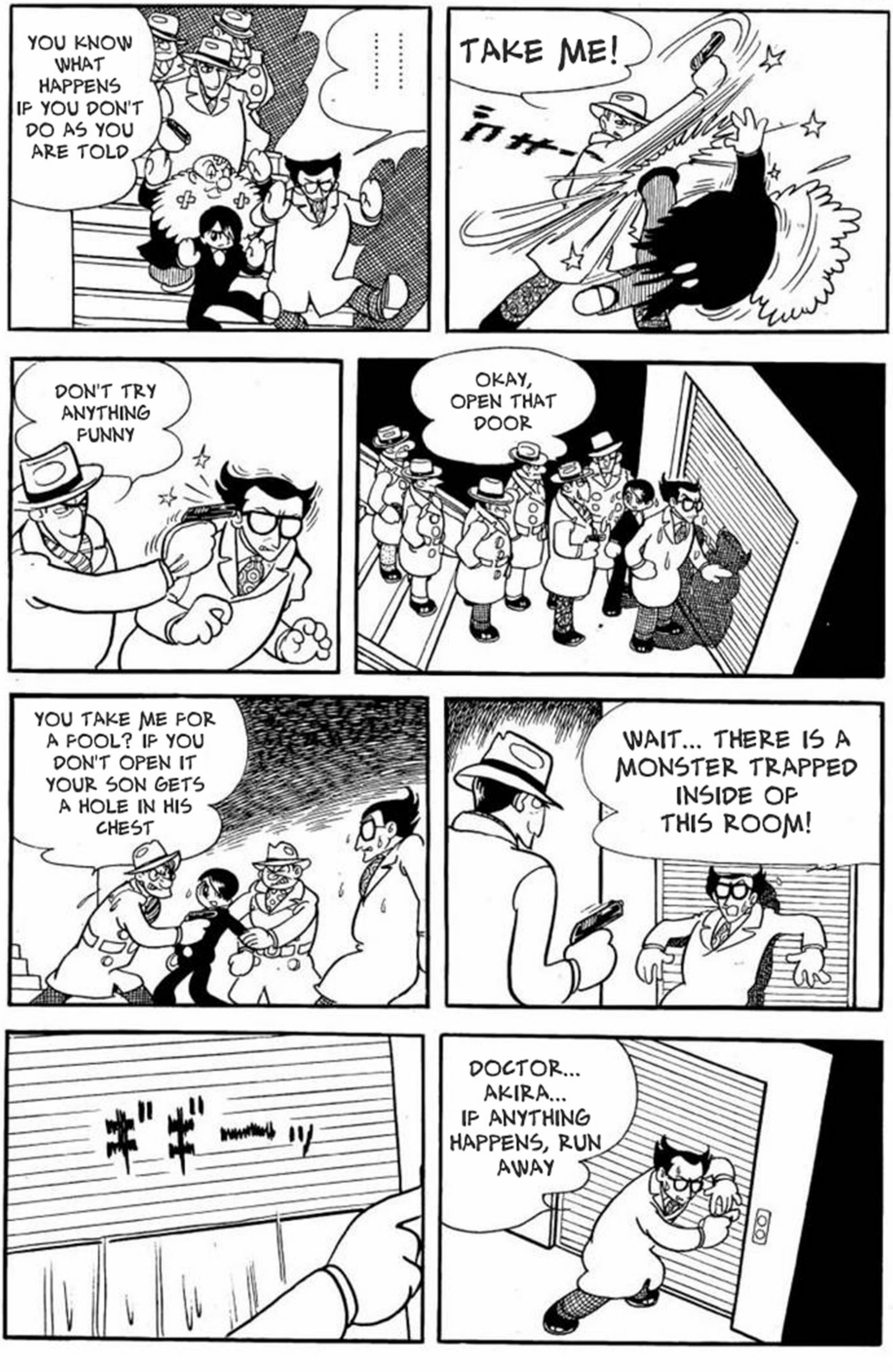

I'LL TRY IT ON A RAT AND A TULIP. THERE'S NO DANGER
YOUR GRANDFATHER HID THE BIG X CARD INSIDE OF MY BODY
THERE.. I GAVE IT A SHOT.
DOCTOR! LOOK AT THIS!
BIG X'S RESEARCH CONTINUES. I'M SORRY IF THAT BOTHERS YOU AKIRA...
A POTION THAT CAN PRODUCE GIANT ORGANISMS WHICH CAN BE HARVESTED. WHEN IT'S PERFECTED IT WILL CHANGE CIVILIZATION FOR-EVER. IT'S AMAZING!


AND HOW ABOUT THE TULIP
LITTLE BY LITTLE IT'S GROWING
HMM ....
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THIS IS AMAZING
THE BUDS HAVE COME OUT AND THE ROOTS HAVE GROWN A LITTLE LONGER
ガタ
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ガタ
WHOA! FATHER!
EH?
YES! HERE IT IS
WHAT THE? AKIRA, GET THE BIGGER CAGE!

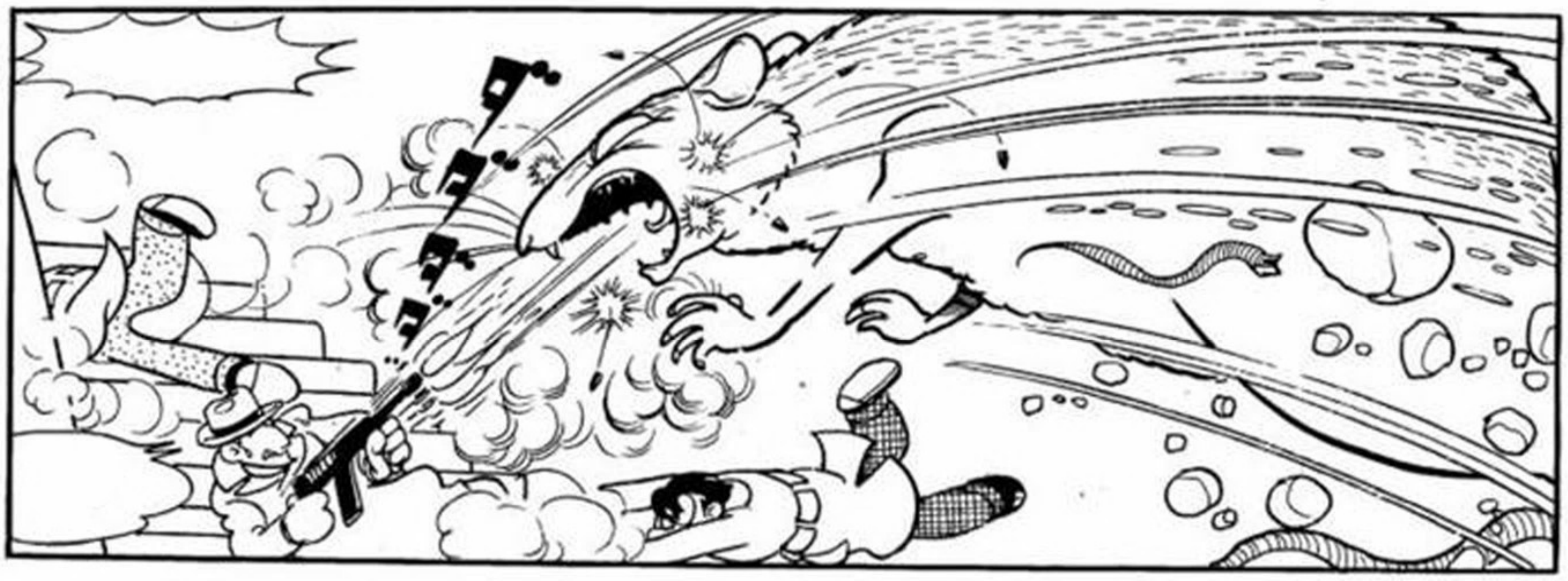

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE PUTTING A RAT IN A DOG'S CAGE
YIKES! THIS ONE TOO!
OH NO! IT'S BITING THROUGH THE BARS!
ギーッ
IS THAT REALLY THE TULIP BULB?!?
ガチャン!!

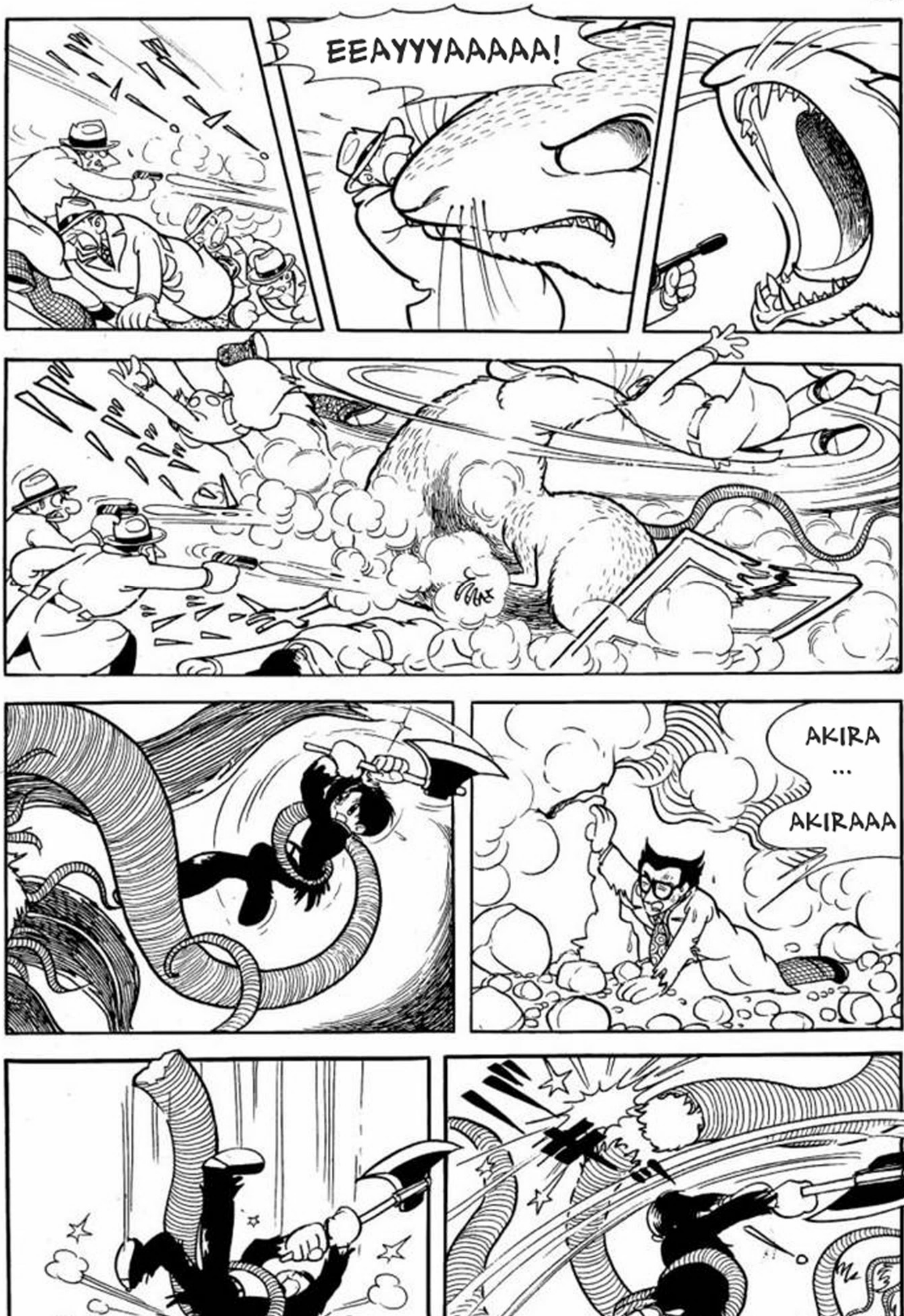

AKIRA LEND ME THE AXE
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
PUT THE ELECTRIC DOOR DOWN!


ガチーン!!
WHAT DO WE DO?
HM... SPRAY POISON GAS FROM THE CEILING AND KILL IT.
THIS IS WHY YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS
AH!
DR ASAGUMO, PLEASE GO GET THE BIG X FORMULA
THE NAZI ALLIANCE ....
THAT'S RIGHT... THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE BEEN A BIT OF A CRAP SHOOT
WHERE'S THE BIG X CARD?
IT'S IN THE LAB, BUT I CAN'T GO IN THERE RIGHT NOW.
TAKE ME TO IT
NO WAY! WE CAN'T GO IN THERE!

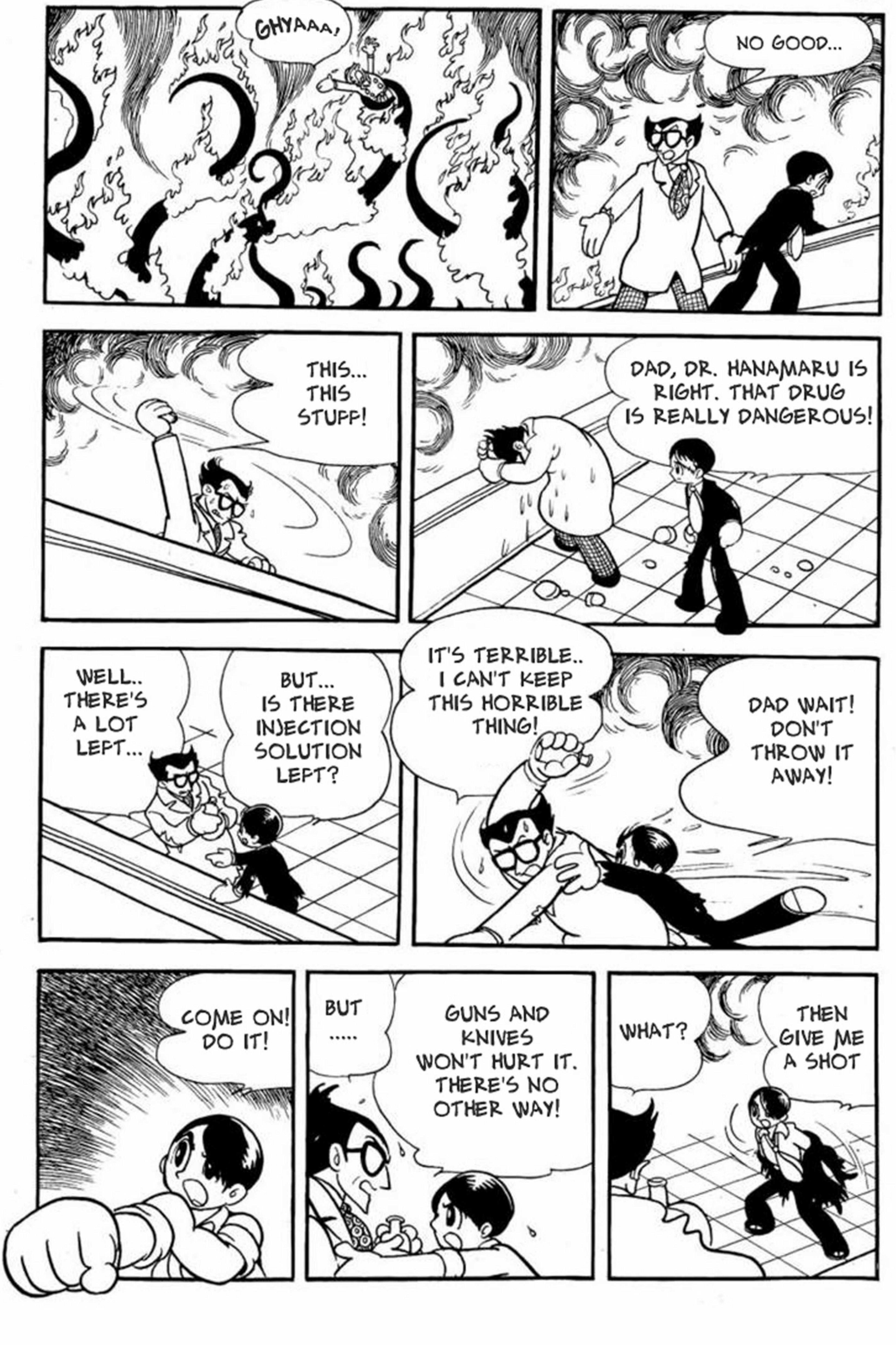

YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T DO AS YOU ARE TOLD
TAKE ME!
DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY
OKAY, OPEN THAT DOOR
YOU TAKE ME FOR A FOOL? IF YOU DON'T OPEN IT YOUR SON GETS A HOLE IN HIS CHEST
WAIT... THERE IS A MONSTER TRAPPED INSIDE OF THIS ROOM!
ギギーッ
DOCTOR... AKIRA... IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, RUN AWAY

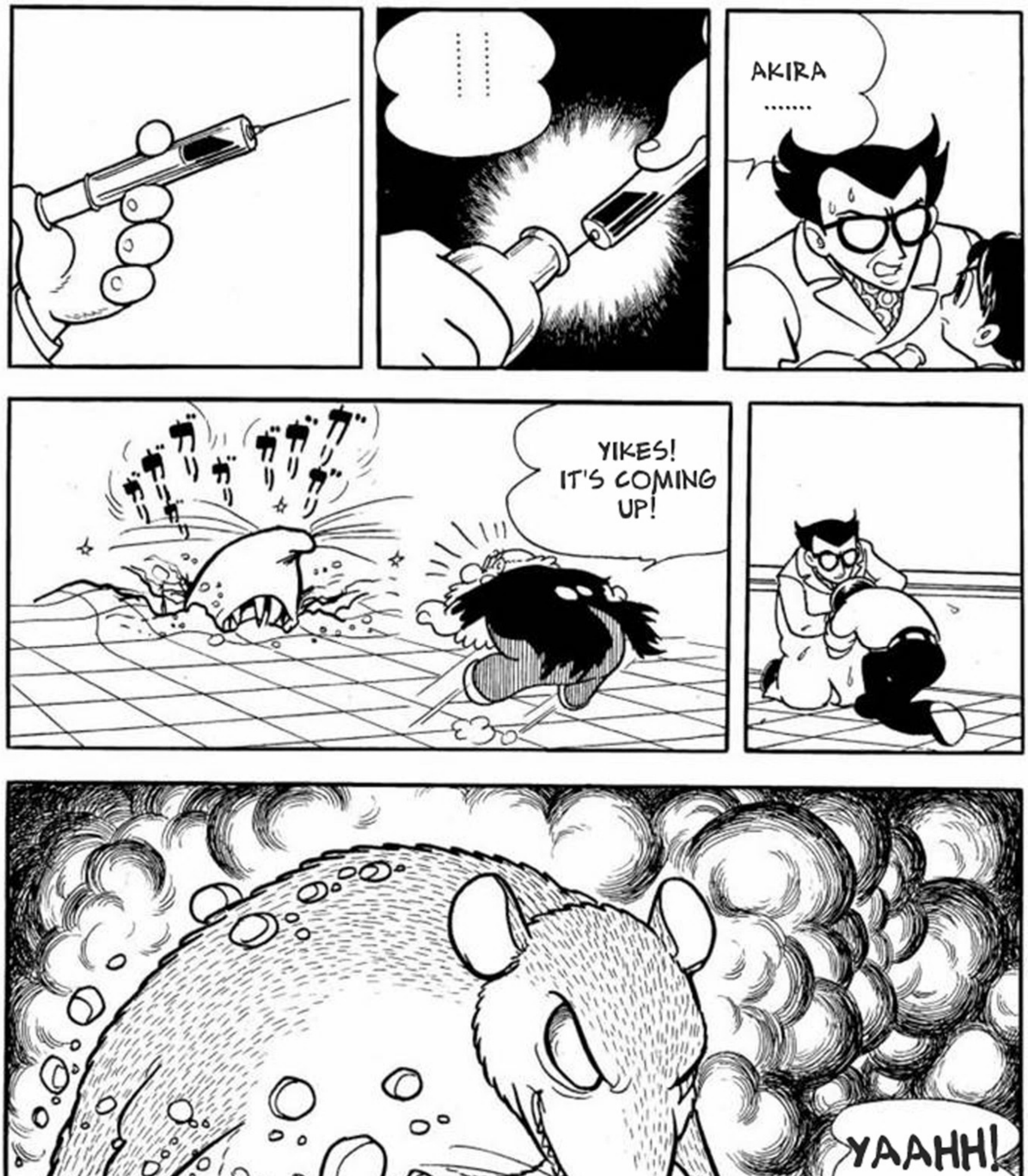

Ghiaaaahhh!!!
IT'S
IT'S HUGE!
AIIGHH!

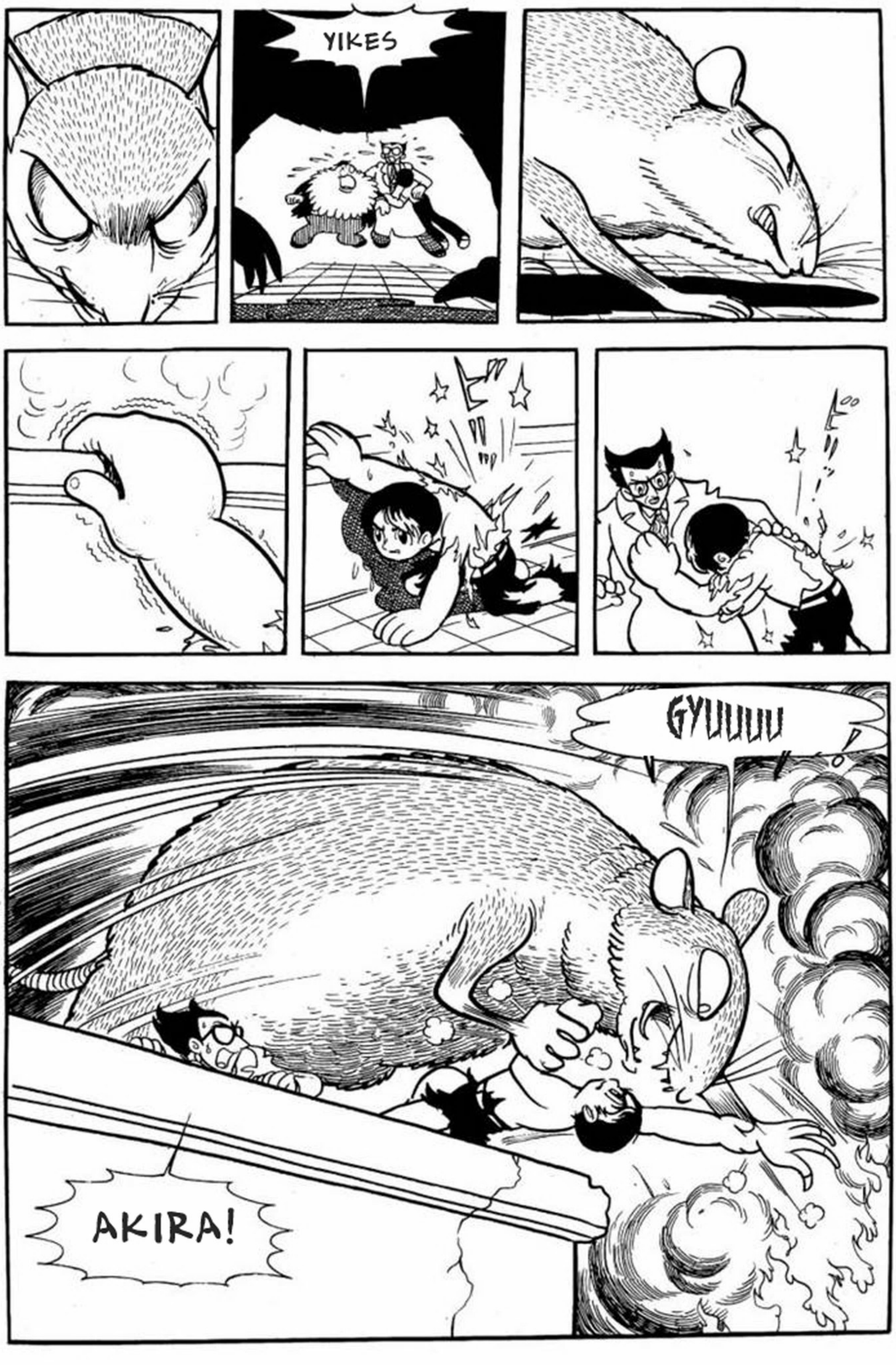


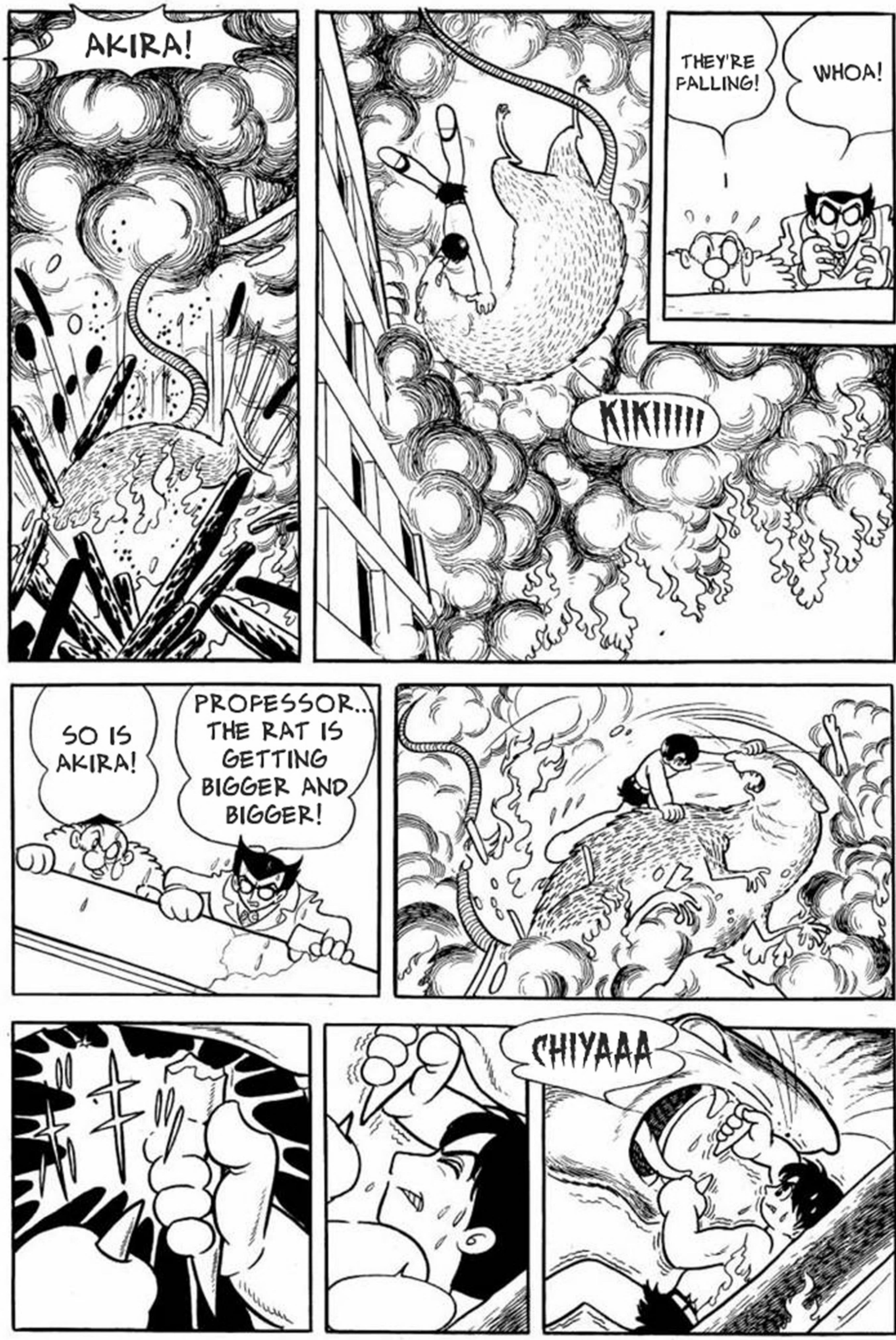

EEAYYYAAAAA!
AKIRA
...
AKIRAAA

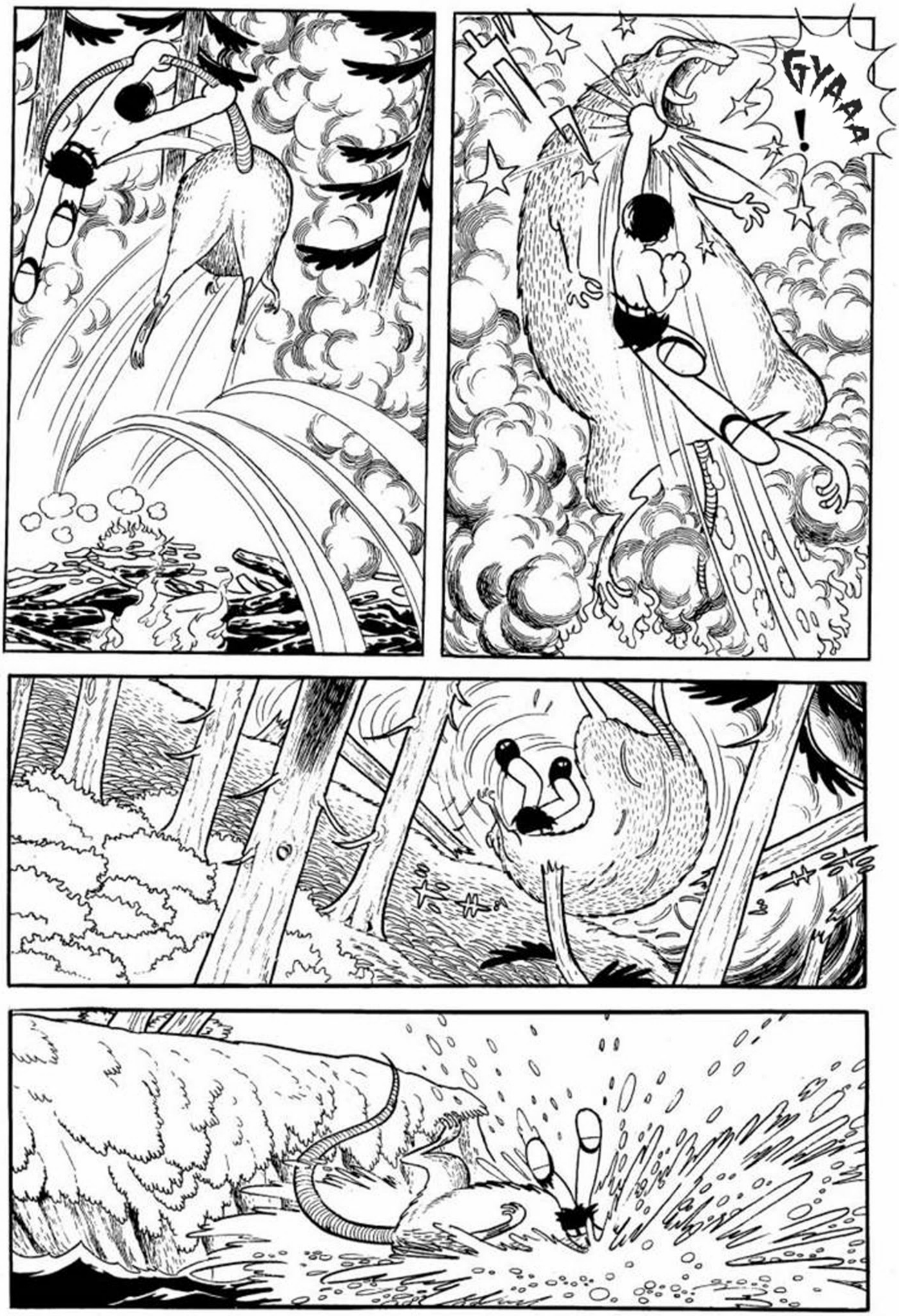

ALCO
HOL
ボッ
THE EXIT IS BLOCKED
THERE'S NO WAY OUT... WE HAVE TO TRY FOR THE ROOF
AH!

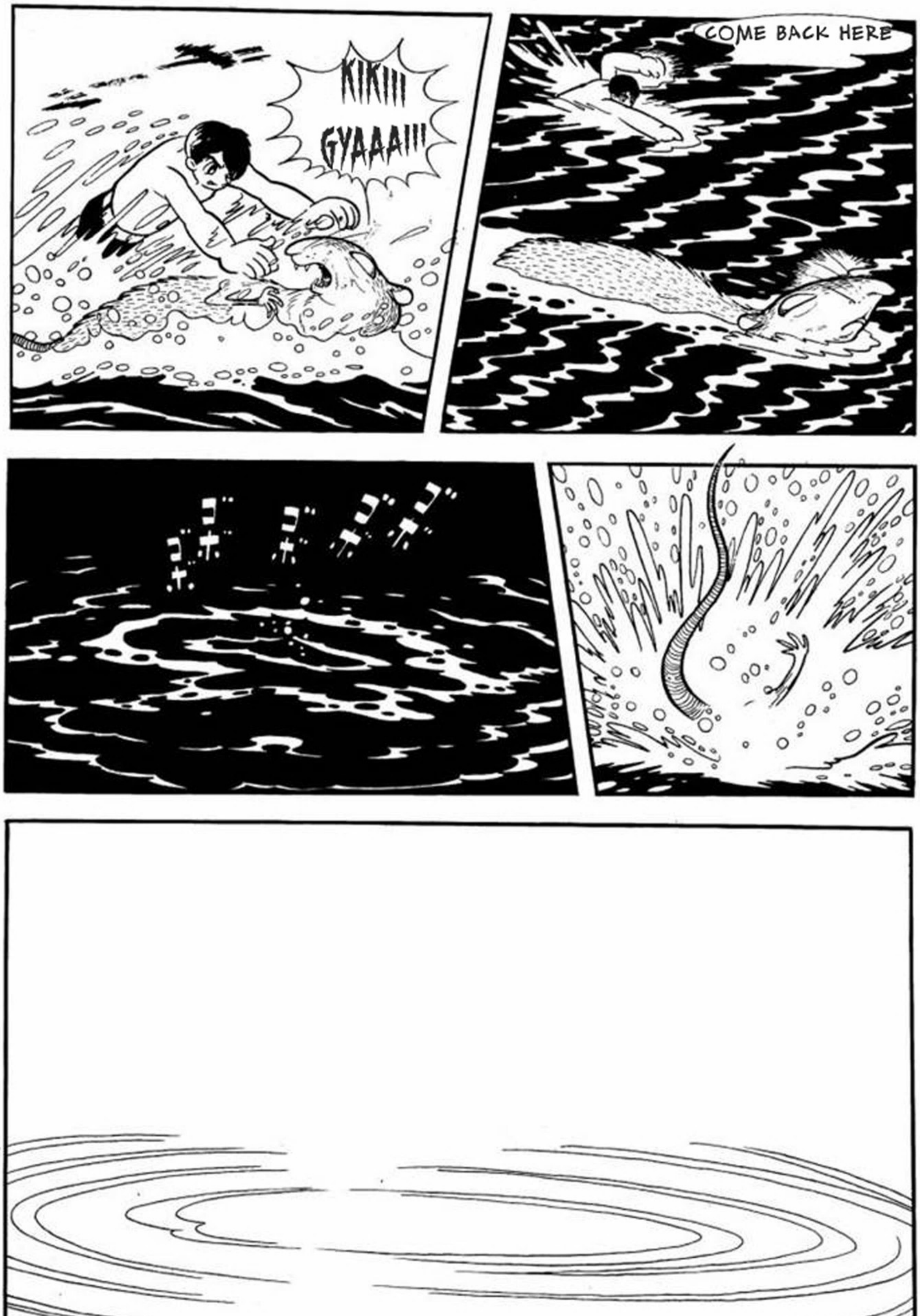

NO GOOD...
GHYAAA!
DAD, DR. HANAMARU IS RIGHT. THAT DRUG IS REALLY DANGEROUS!
THIS... THIS STUFF!
DAD WAIT! DON'T THROW IT AWAY!
IT'S TERRIBLE.. I CAN'T KEEP THIS HORRIBLE THING!
BUT... IS THERE INJECTION SOLUTION LEFT?
WELL.. THERE'S A LOT LEFT...
THEN GIVE ME A SHOT
WHAT?
GUNS AND KNIVES WON'T HURT IT. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!
BUT .....
COME ON! DO IT!

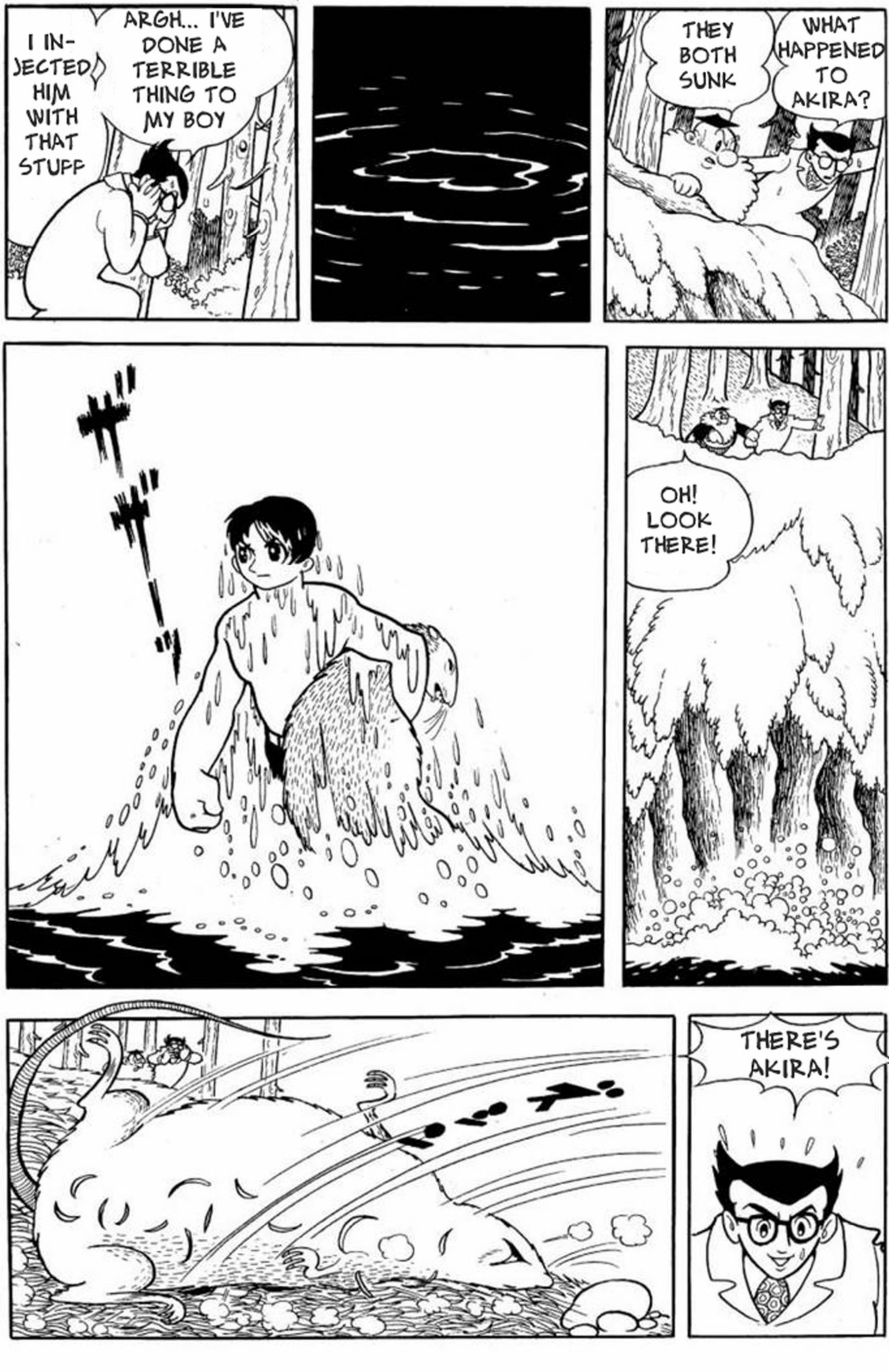

AKIRA
....
YIKES! IT'S COMING UP!
YAAHH!


YIKES
GYUUUU
AKIRA!

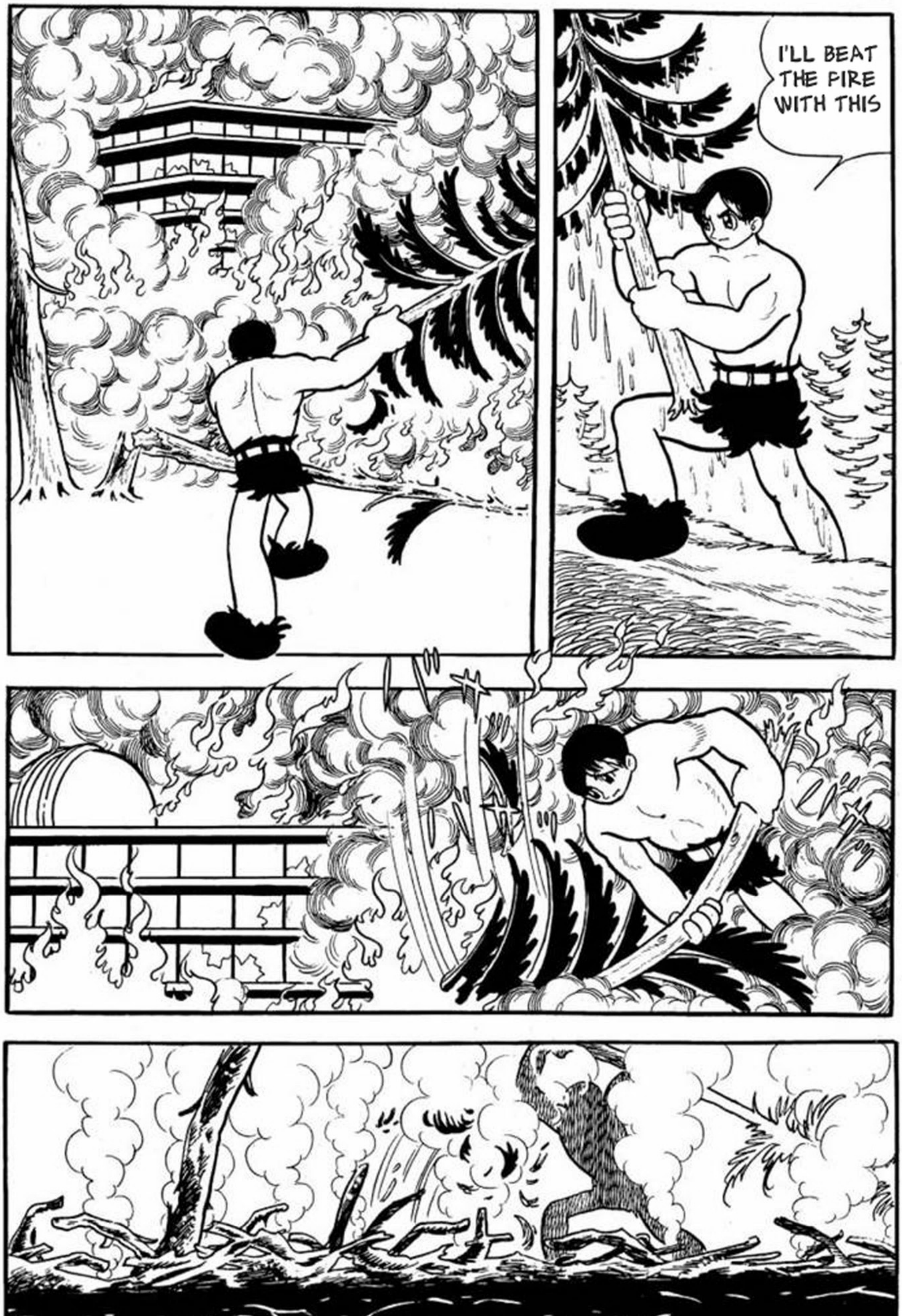

AKIRA!
THEY'RE FALLING!
WHOA!
KIKIIIII
PROFESSOR... THE RAT IS GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER!
SO IS AKIRA!
CHIYAAA


GYAAA!


COME BACK HERE
KIKIII GYAAA!!!
ゴボ ゴボ ゴボ ゴボ ゴボ

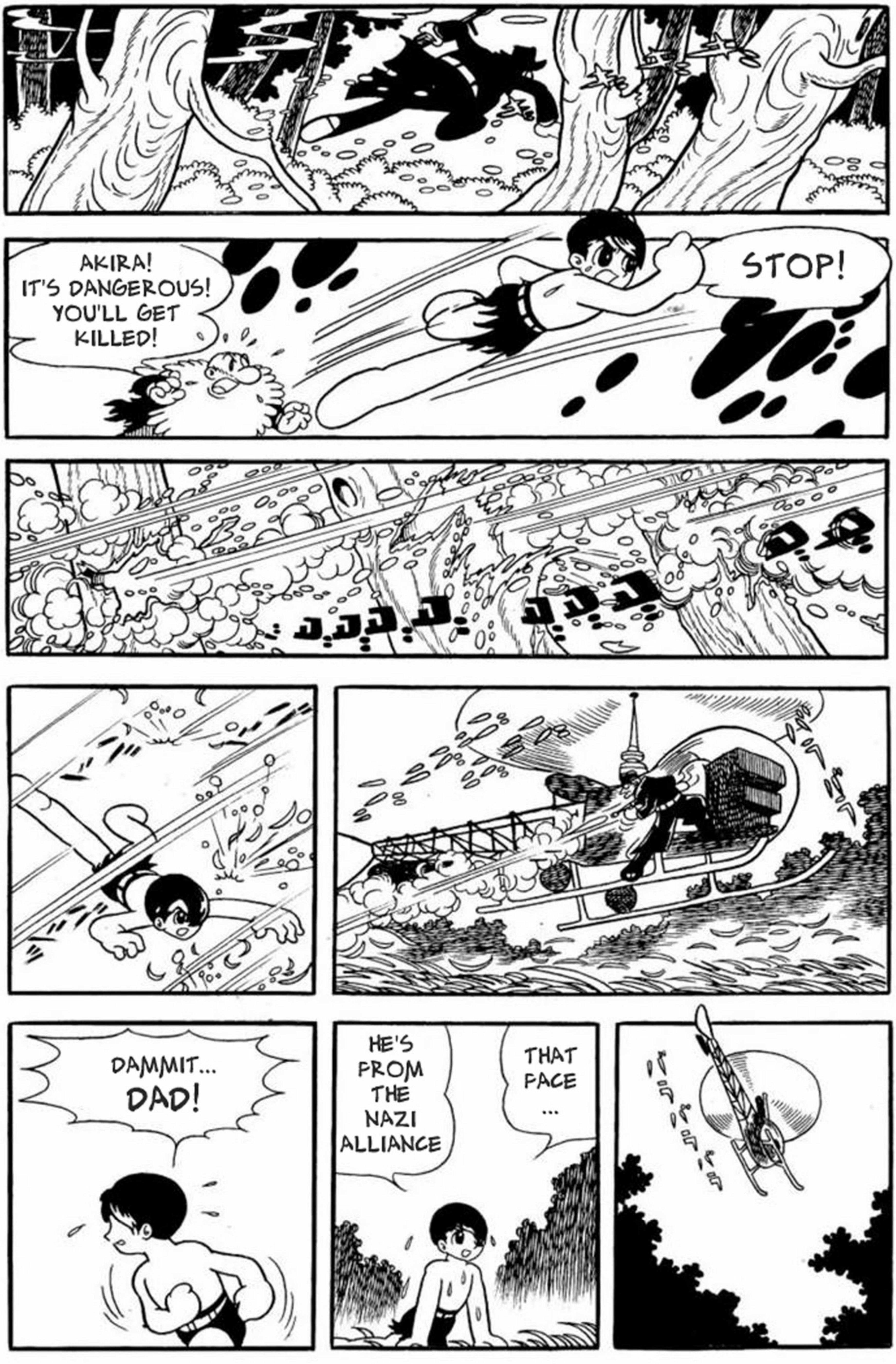

ARGH... I'VE DONE A TERRIBLE THING TO MY BOY
I IN-JECTED HIM WITH THAT STUFF
WHAT HAPPENED TO AKIRA?
THEY BOTH SUNK
OH! LOOK THERE!
THERE'S AKIRA!


SON! ARE YOU OKAY? NOTHING BROKEN?
DAD!
GI- GI- GI-
I'M OKAY... JUST... DIFFERENT
I HAVE TO PUT OUT THE FIRE
STOP MESSING AROUND!


I'LL BEAT THE FIRE WITH THIS


THE BASEMENT AND BANDITS' ENTRANCE BURNED DOWN BUT THE MAIN BUILDING SEEMS INTACT
THE TULIP BULBS ARE FRIED
THE BIG X CARD WAS IN THE BASEMENT
DON'T WORRY. THE CARD MAY HAVE BEEN BURNED...
BUT FORTUNE-ATELY
THE BIG X SERUM IS IN HERE.
IF YOU ANALYZE THIS, HOW MUCH CAN YOU MAKE?
IT SEEMS THOSE SPIES HAVE RUN OFF.
OH, I'M STARTING TO SHRINK
AH... ARE YOU OKAY?


IT'S NOT TOO BAD... IT DOESN'T HURT
YOU'RE STEADILY GETTING SMALLER
IF WE USE IT FOR JUSTICE ....
DAD! BIG X CAN BE WONDERFULLY USEFUL, DEPENDING ON HOW WE USE IT!
FATHER!
KAPOOW
WHO?!?


STOP!
AKIRA! IT'S DANGEROUS! YOU'LL GET KILLED!
DAMMIT... DAD!
THAT FACE ...
HE'S FROM THE NAZI ALLIANCE


OH, AKIRA
YOU'VE RETURNED
YOU DUMMY!
WHO'S GOING TO MAKE RAMEN NOODLES?
PROF! WHERE'S MY DAD?
YOU HAVE... THE POWER OF BIG X... YOU MUST... TEAR THE... NAZIS OUT... BY THE ROOTS...
YOU MUST FIGHT... UNTIL YOU ROOT THEM ALL.... OUT OF THE WORLD. YOU HAVE TO FIGHT... ....
THE PROF AND I... USED TO THRIVE ON... RAMEN.
.....
LISTEN AKIRA... YOU'RE A GOOD BOY.
HE'S GONE
....
I'M SO SORRY
DAD!

CHAPTER 3
THE BIRTH OF BIG X



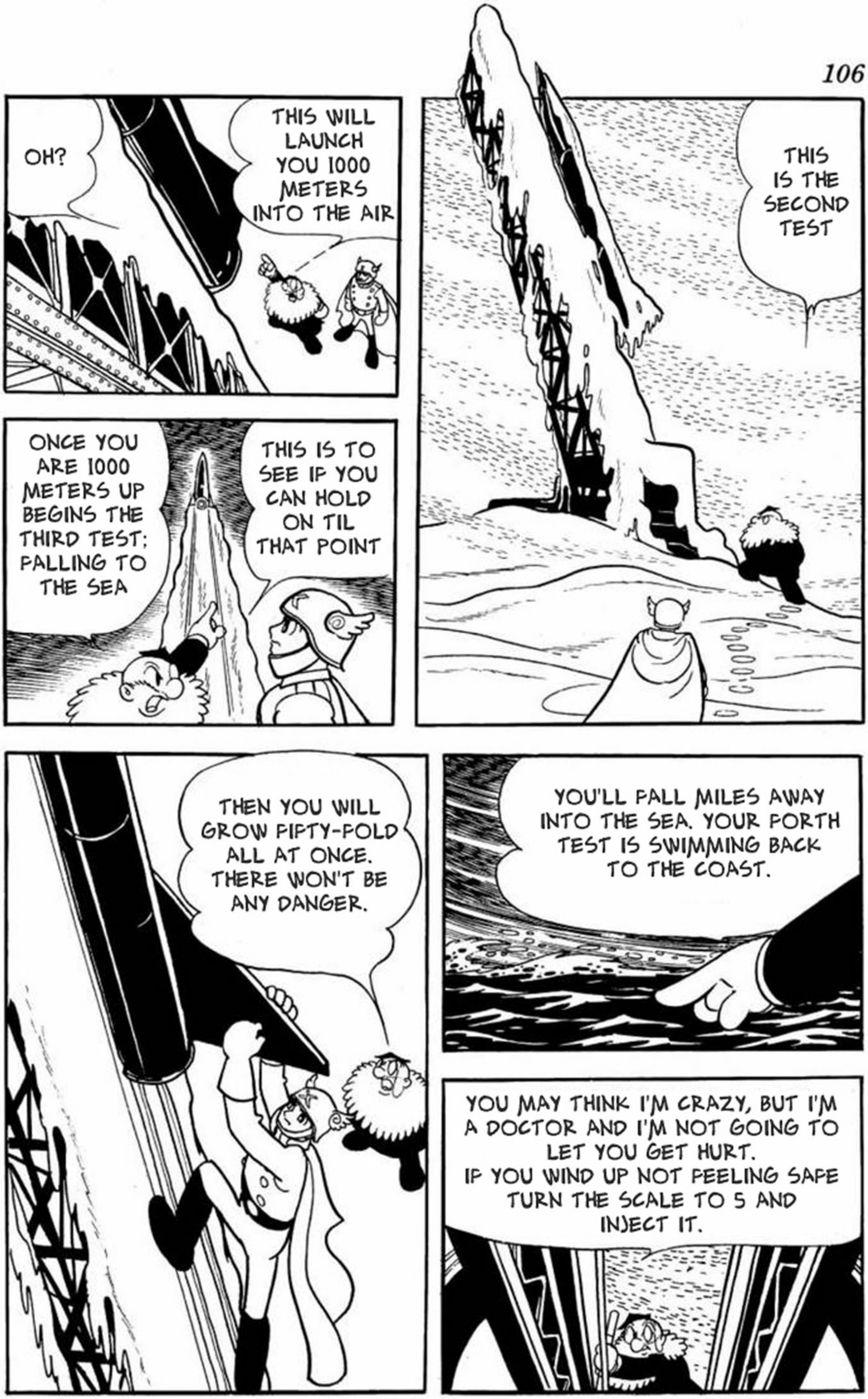

THE FOLLOWING YEAR...MARCH
HOKKAIDO - SHIRETOKO PENINSULA

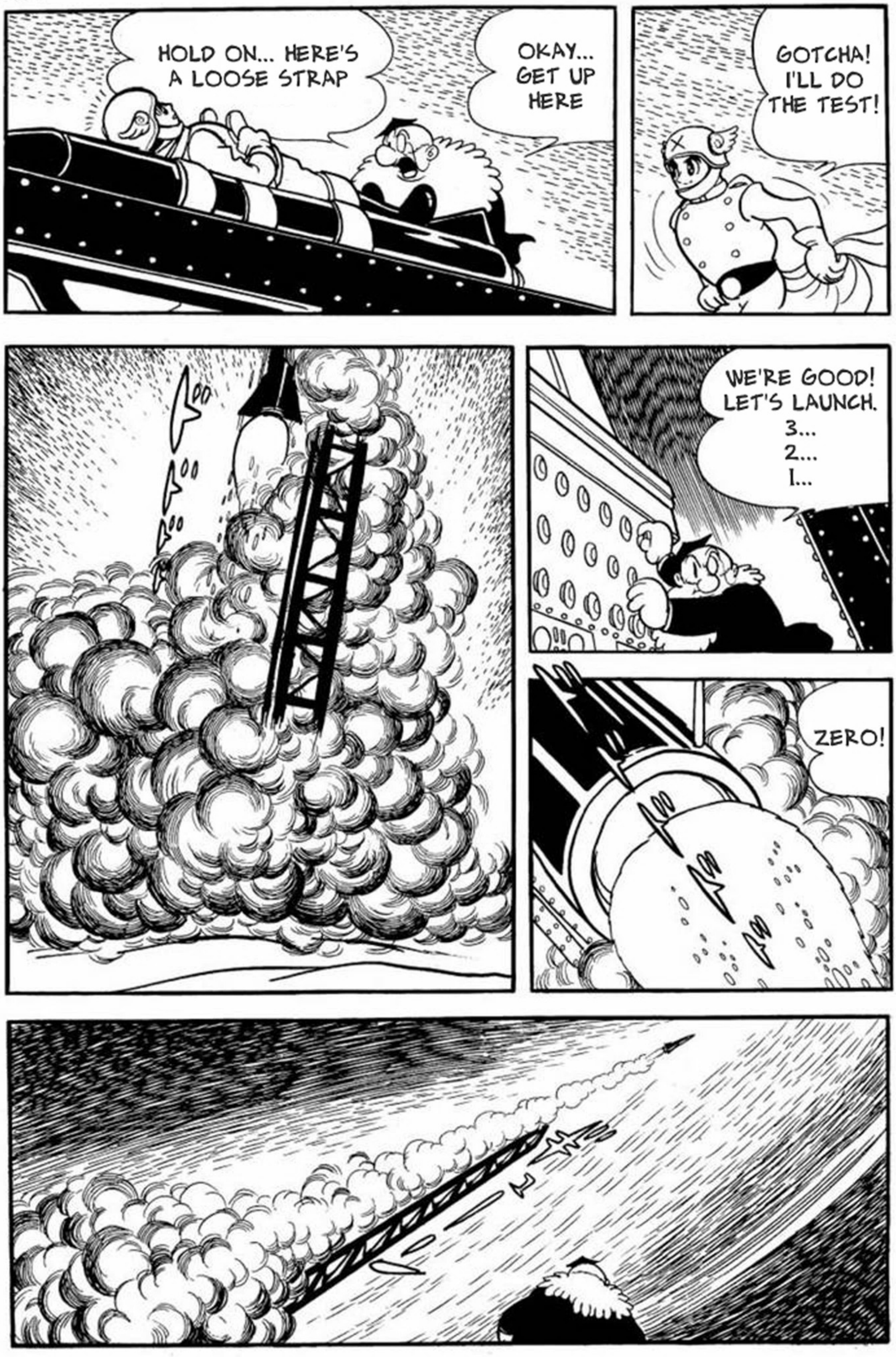


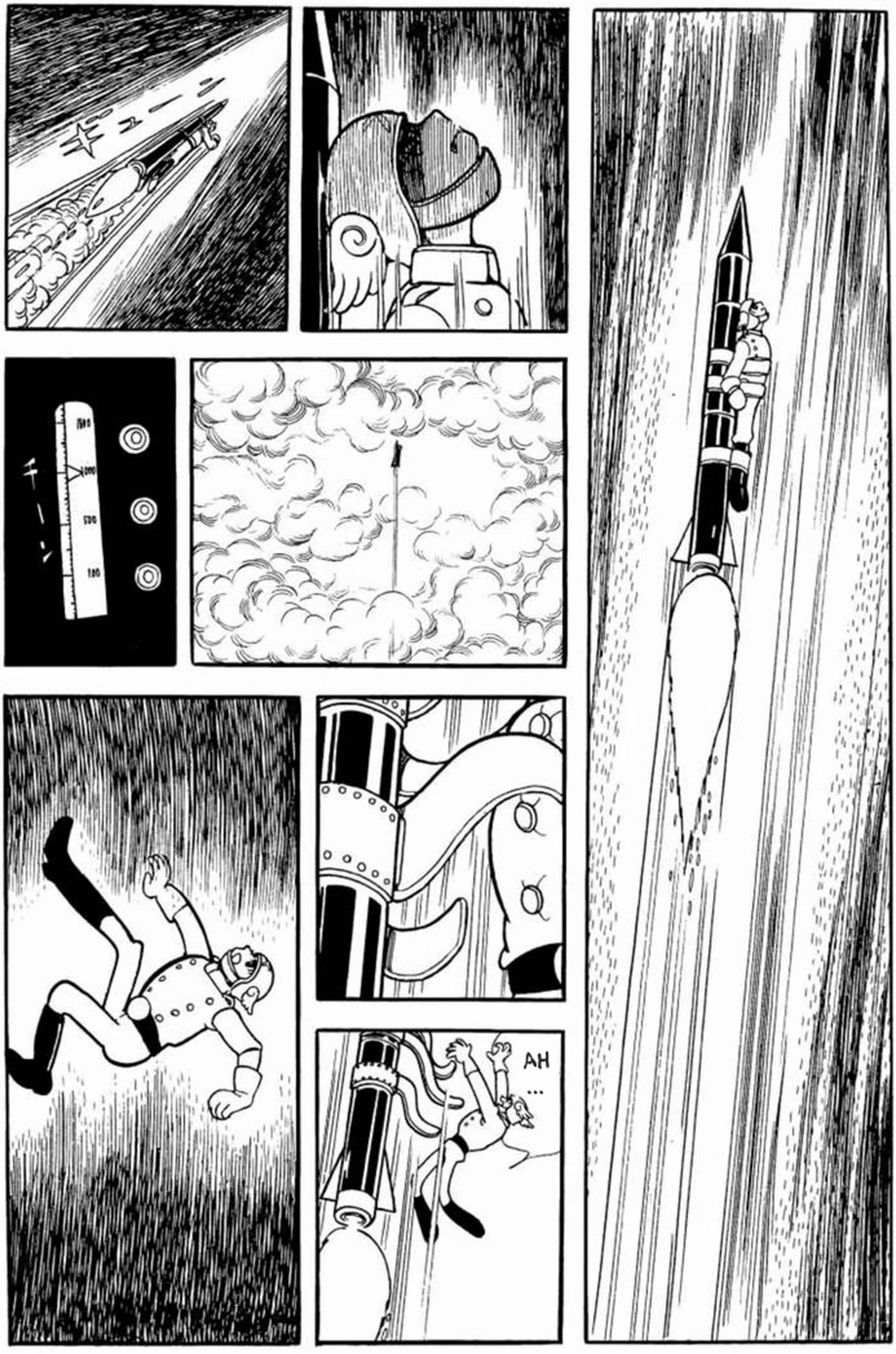

IT'S BEEN THREE MONTHS
AS YOUR GUARDIAN AND PROTECTOR OF BIG X, WE'VE BEEN HIDING FROM THE EYES OF THE WORLD HERE IN SHIRETOKO
TODAY YOU WILL BE TAKING ON THE BURDEN OF BIG X.
THIS IS THE BIG X INJECTOR
ALIGN THE SCALE ON THE NEEDLE
BASED ON THE SCALE AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF SERUM CAN BE DRAWN OUT AND YOU CAN BE ANY SIZE.
AND THIS IS ....
CLOTHES MADE OUT OF A SPECIAL RUBBER

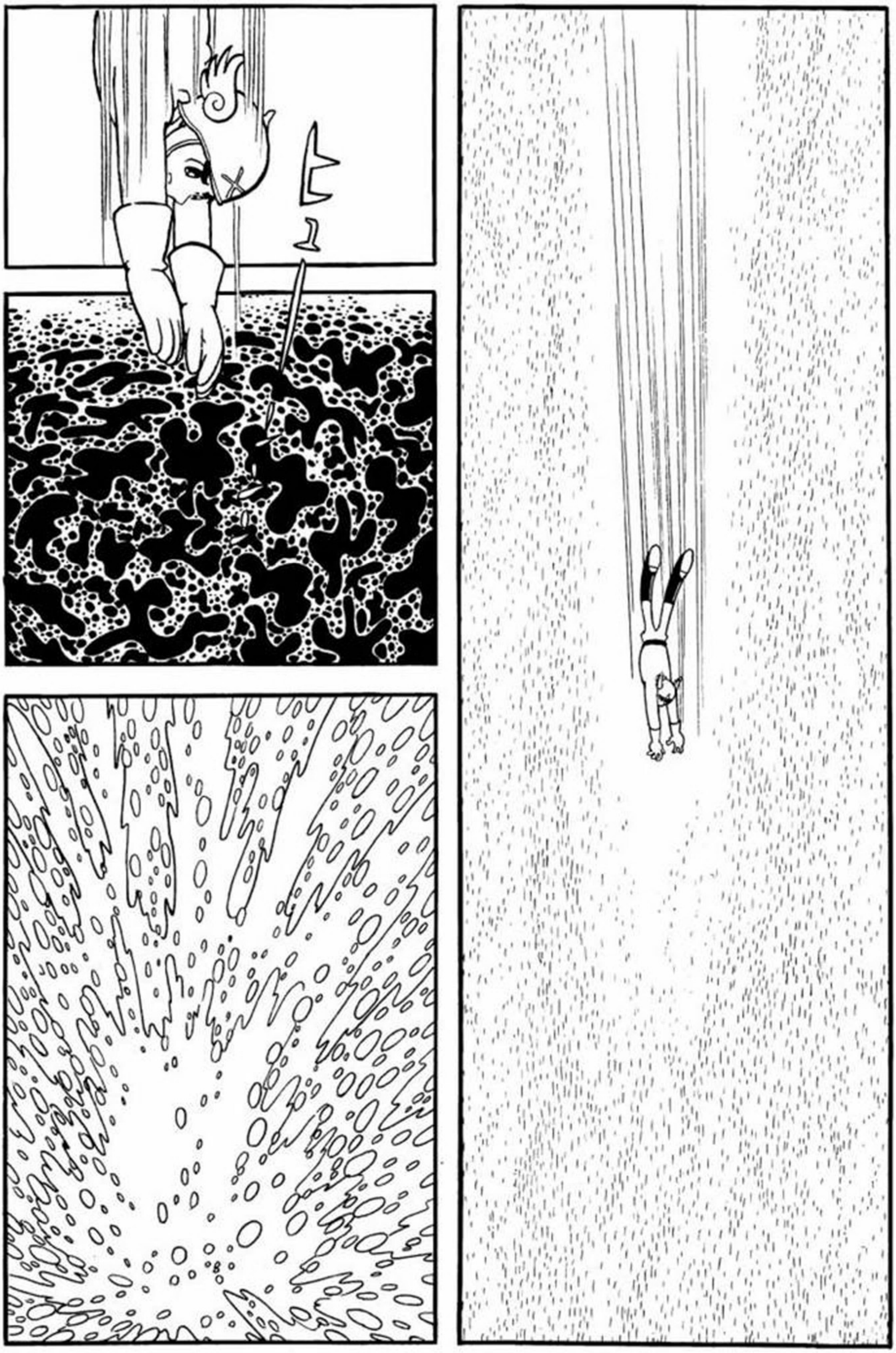

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO OR HOW BIG YOU GET, YOUR CLOTHES WILL FIT YOU.
OOOOH IT LOOKS GOOD!
NICE WORK PROF! THANKS! THANK YOU SO MUCH!
THERE THERE... NOW, LETS DO A TEST. INJECT THE SERUM.

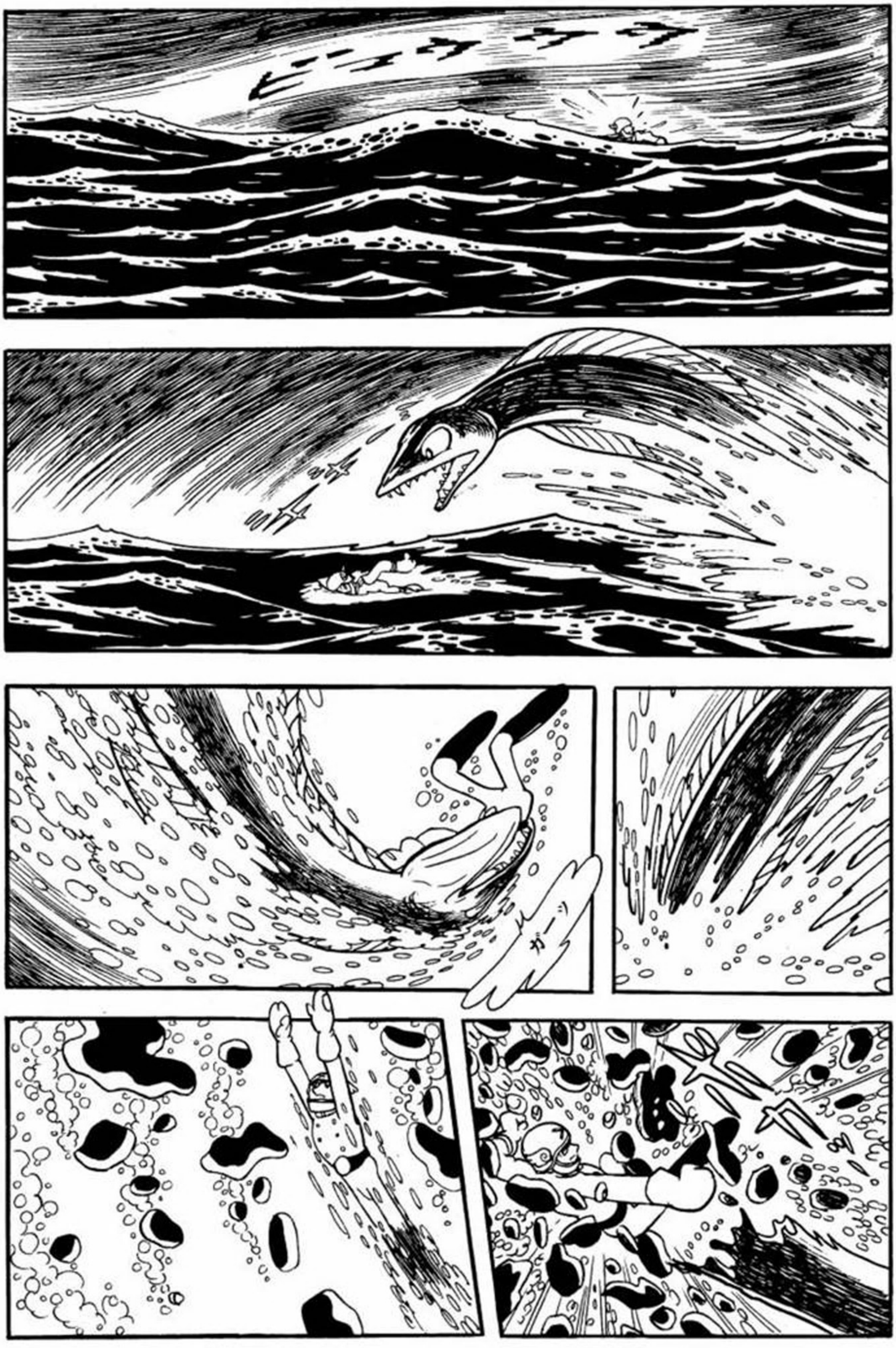

SCALE 2: YOU WON'T GROW BUT YOU'LL BE SUPER STRONG AND IMPERVIOUS SCALE 3: YOU GROW TWICE AS BIG SCALE 4: YOU ARE TEN TIMES BIGGER SCALE 5: IS EVEN BIGGER THAN THAT
PROFESSOR HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?
NO, NO. SO SORRY, BUT IT IS THE FIRST TEST
COME WITH ME

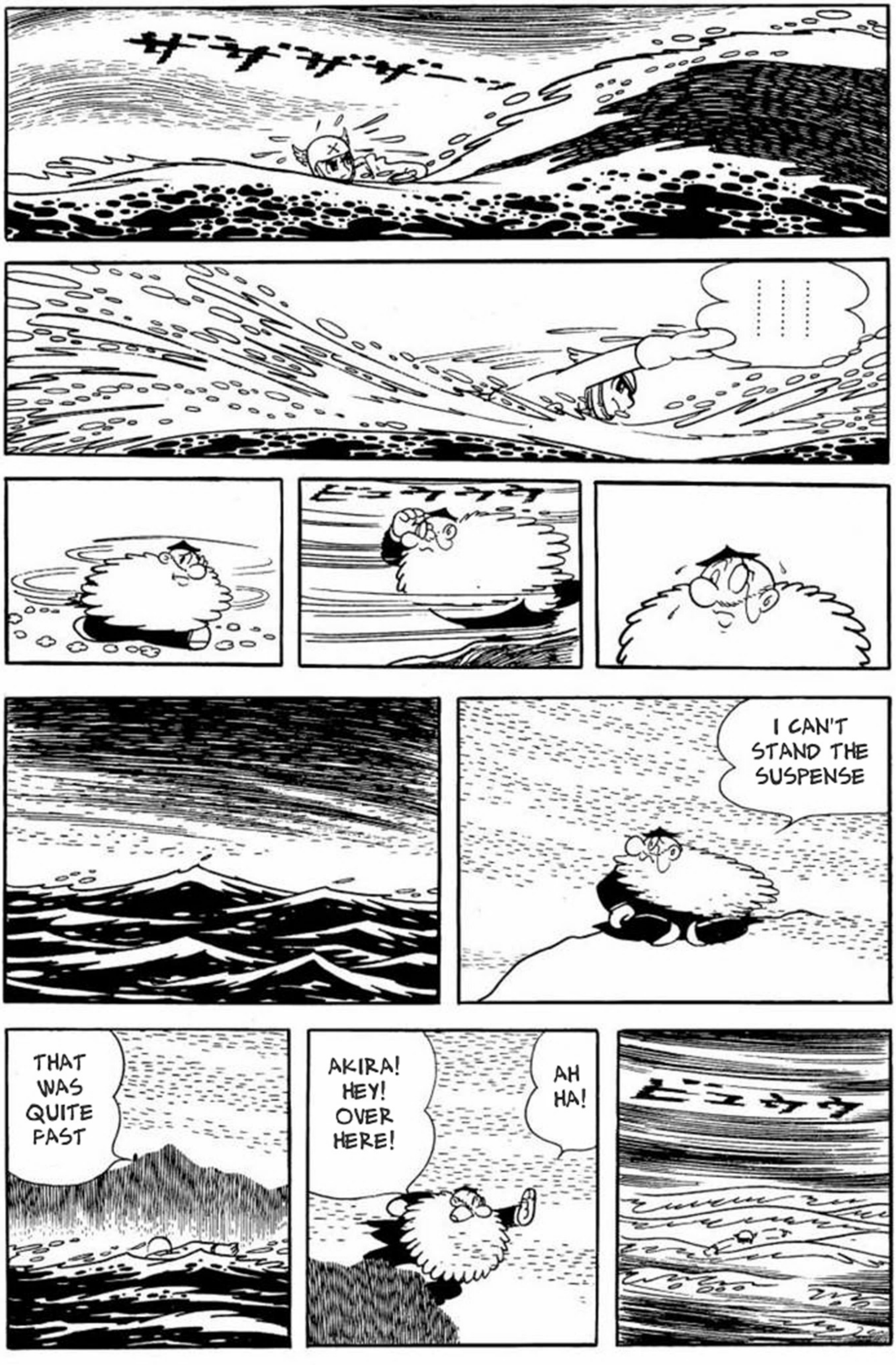

OH?
THIS WILL LAUNCH YOU 1000 METERS INTO THE AIR
THIS IS THE SECOND TEST
ONCE YOU ARE 1000 METERS UP BEGINS THE THIRD TEST; FALLING TO THE SEA
THIS IS TO SEE IF YOU CAN HOLD ON TIL THAT POINT
THEN YOU WILL GROW FIFTY-FOLD ALL AT ONCE. THERE WON'T BE ANY DANGER.
YOU'LL FALL MILES AWAY INTO THE SEA. YOUR FORTH TEST IS SWIMMING BACK TO THE COAST.
YOU MAY THINK I'M CRAZY, BUT I'M A DOCTOR AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU GET HURT.
IF YOU WIND UP NOT FEELING SAFE TURN THE SCALE TO 5 AND INJECT IT.


HOLD ON... HERE'S A LOOSE STRAP
OKAY... GET UP HERE
GOTCHA! I'LL DO THE TEST!
WE'RE GOOD! LET'S LAUNCH. 3... 2... 1...
ZERO!


ギューーン
チーン
AH ...

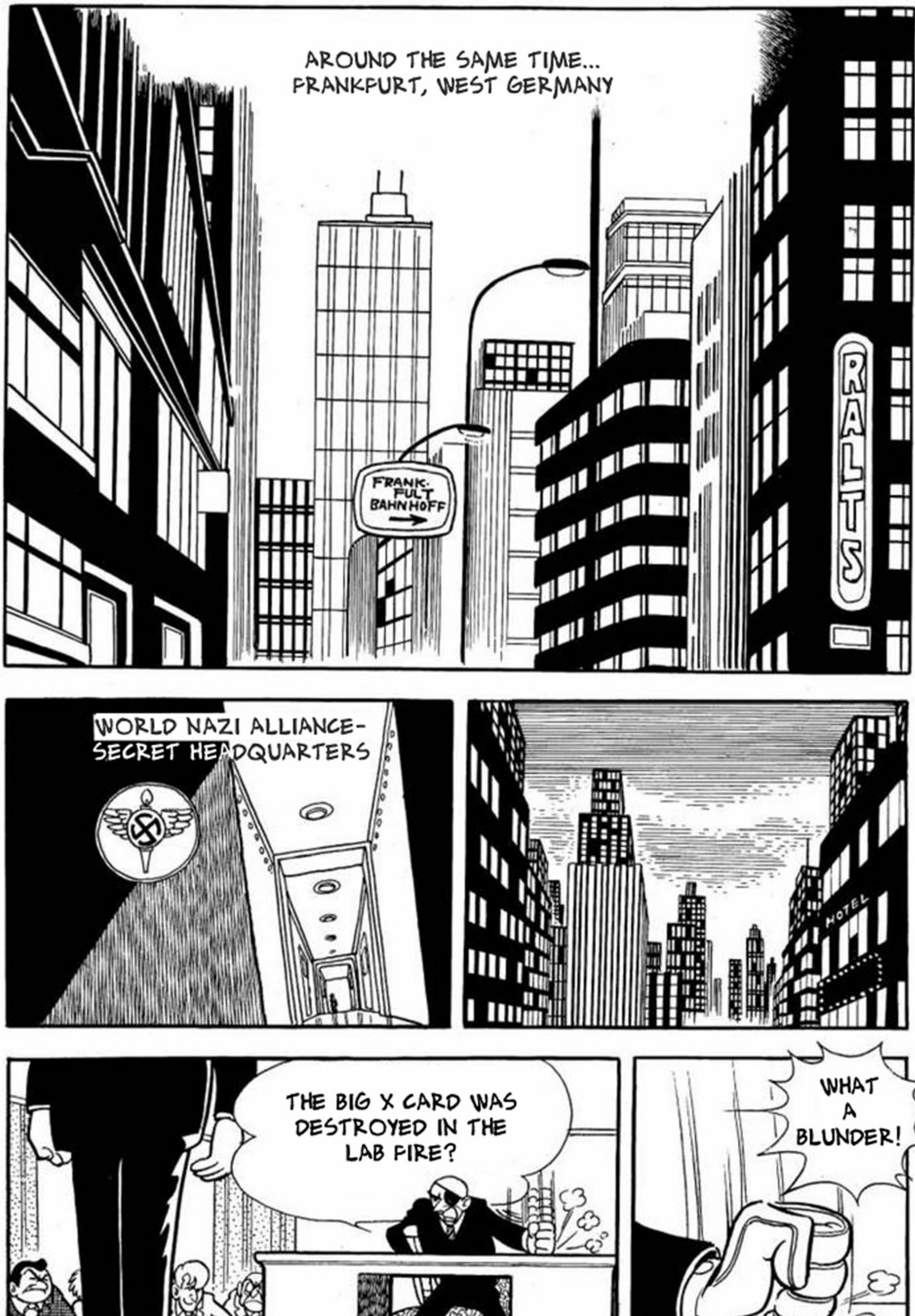

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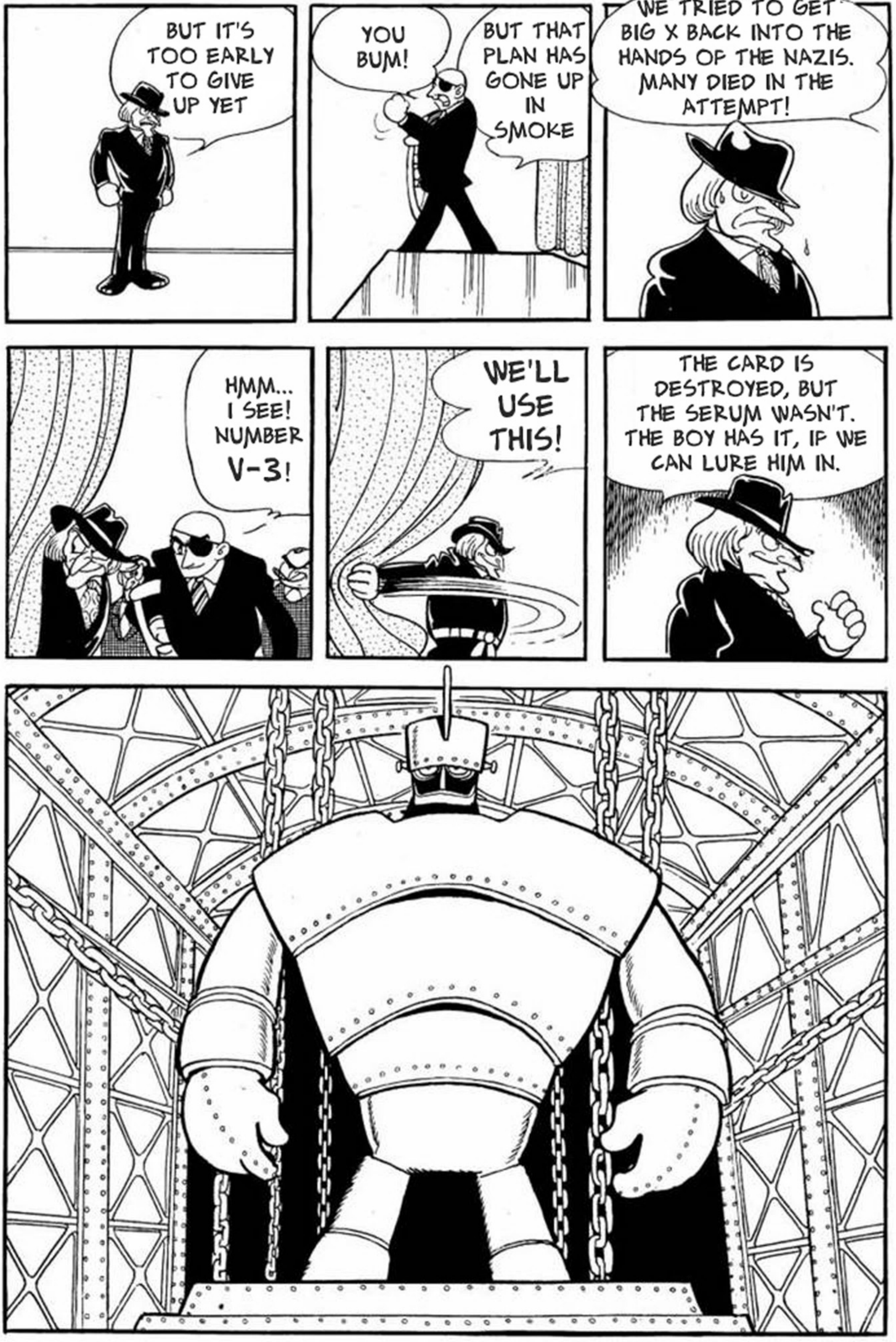

ビューウウウ
ガーッ

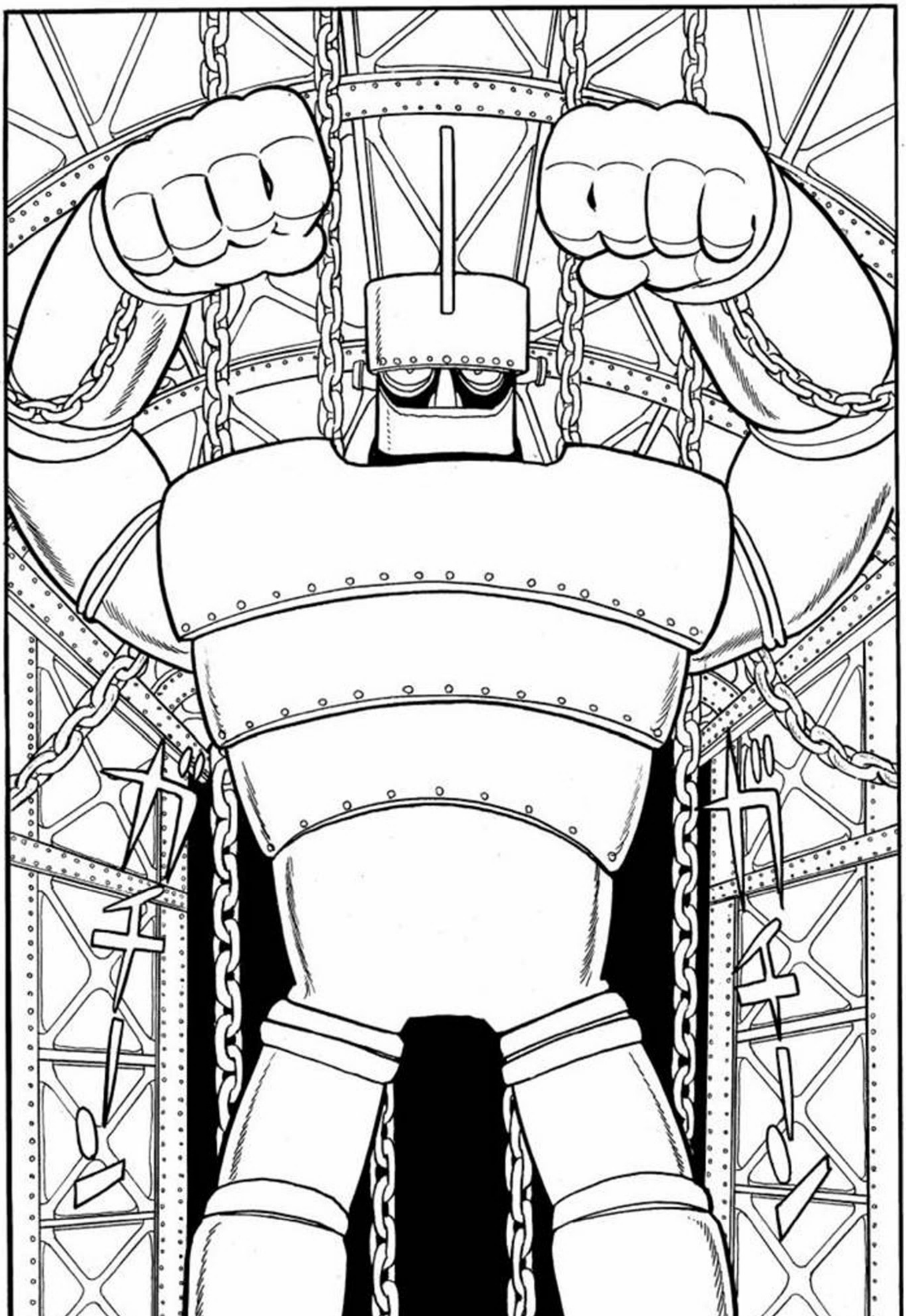

I CAN'T STAND THE SUSPENSE
THAT WAS QUITE FAST
AKIRA! HEY! OVER HERE!
AH HA!

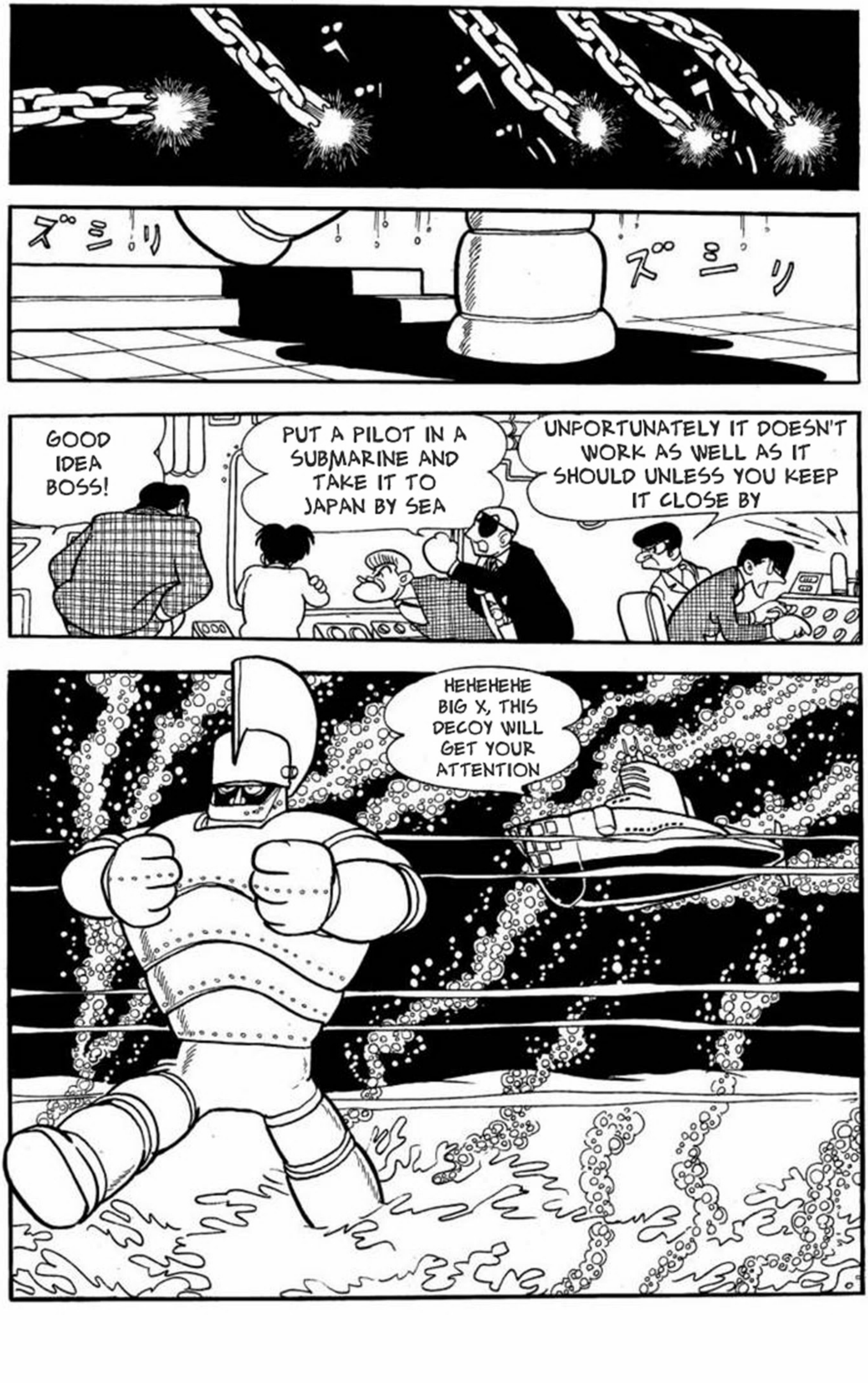

GOOD, GOOD! YOU ARE A GREAT CYBORG!
YES! NOTHING TO IT!
DID IT GO WELL?
I WAS GETTING A LITTLE FLUSTERED
TO MODIFY A BODY IN ORDER TO EXIST IN OUTER SPACE. THAT IS A "CYBORG"
SOON THE SPACE AGE WILL BE UPON US, AND IN ORDER FOR THE HUMAN RACE TO ADVANCE INTO SPACE, WE WILL NEED TO REFORM OUR BODIES.
WHAT EXACTLY IS A CYBORG?
ON THAT NOTE, I THINK IT IS TIME FOR ME TO MOVE ON
AKIRA, YOU CAN USE YOUR POWER TO FIGHT THE BAD GUYS. HOWEVER...
WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU IS THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO USE THIS POWER FOR THE SPACE PROGRAM.
GOODBYE AKIRA. YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT NOW.

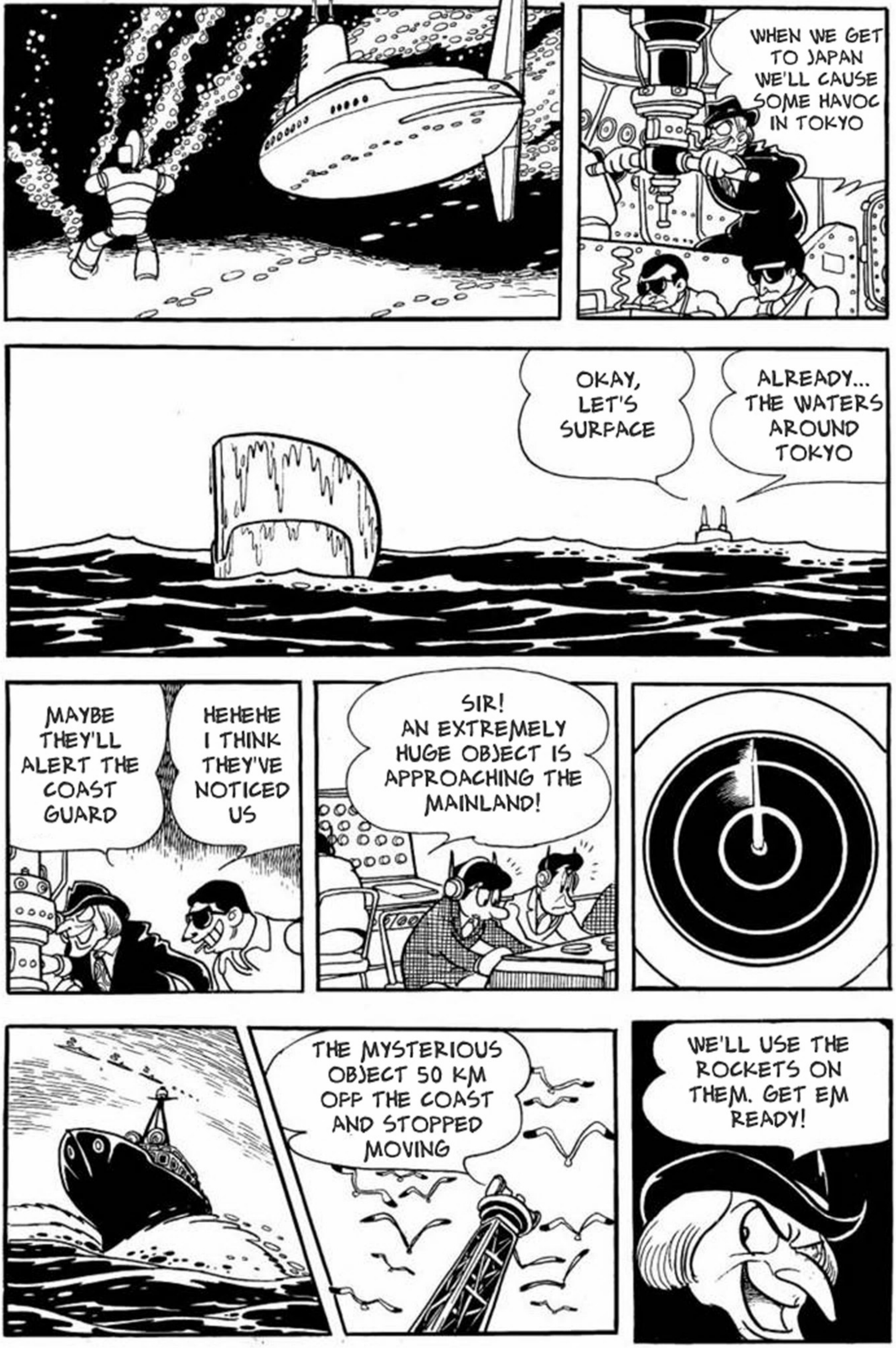

PROFESSOR, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M GOING INTO HIDING FOR NOW. THOSE DEVILS ARE OUT THERE AND I DON'T WANT THEM TO FIND ME.
I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST AKIRA, AND GIVE MY BEST TO YOUR MOM.
PROF!
THIS IS GOD'S GIFT TO ME
WITH THIS A HUMAN CAN BECOME A DEMON OR A SUPERHUMAN. MY MISSION IS TO PROTECT IT AND USE IT IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE.
DAD, PLEASE HEAR ME. I'LL FIGHT THE WORLD'S ENEMIES. I'LL LOOK AFTER THE WORLD. PLEASE LOOK AFTER ME.

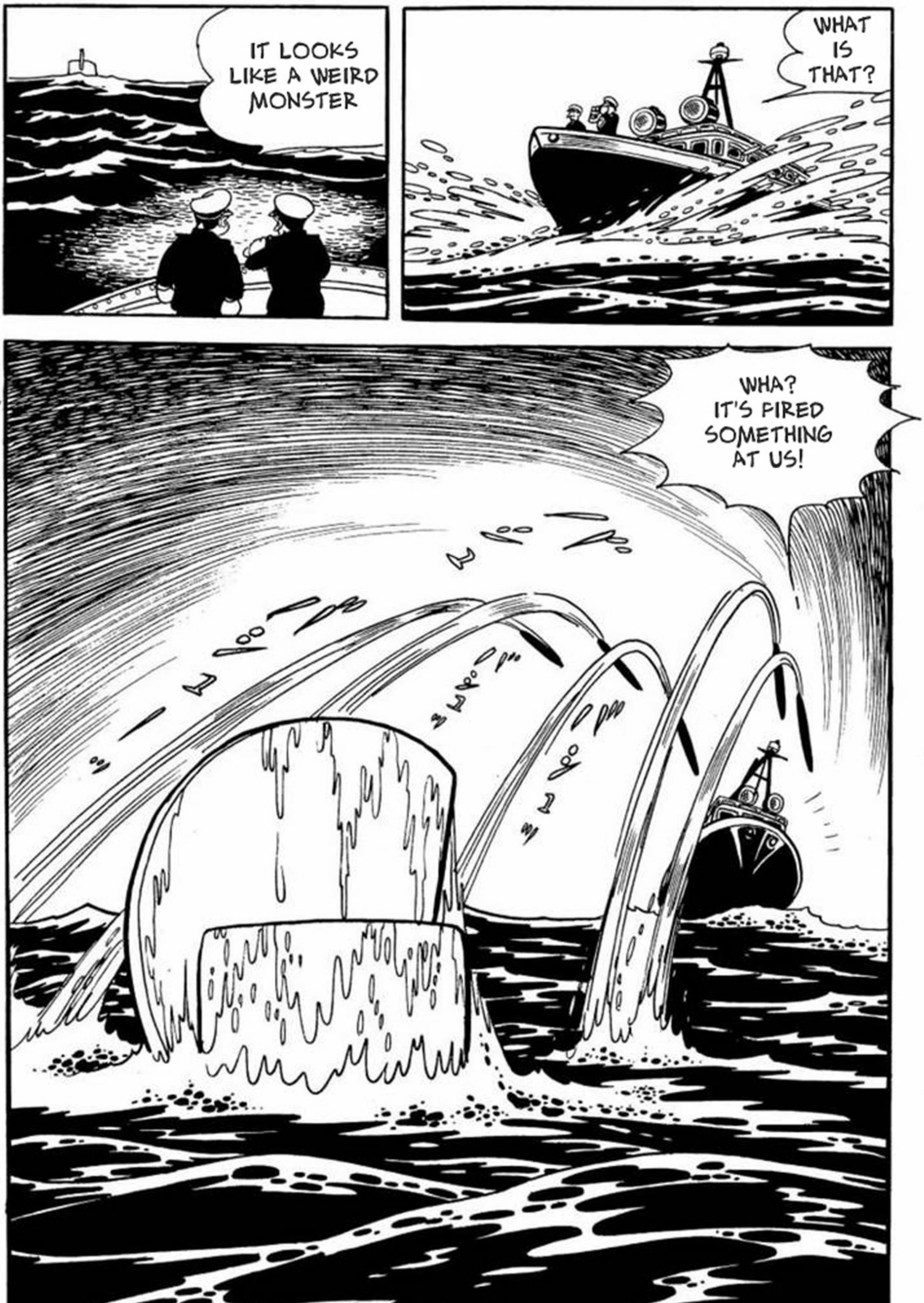

AROUND THE SAME TIME...
FRANKFURT, WEST GERMANY
FRANK-FULT BAHNHOFF
RALTS
WORLD NAZI ALLIANCE-
SECRET HEADQUARTERS
HOTEL
THE BIG X CARD WAS DESTROYED IN THE LAB FIRE?
WHAT A BLUNDER!

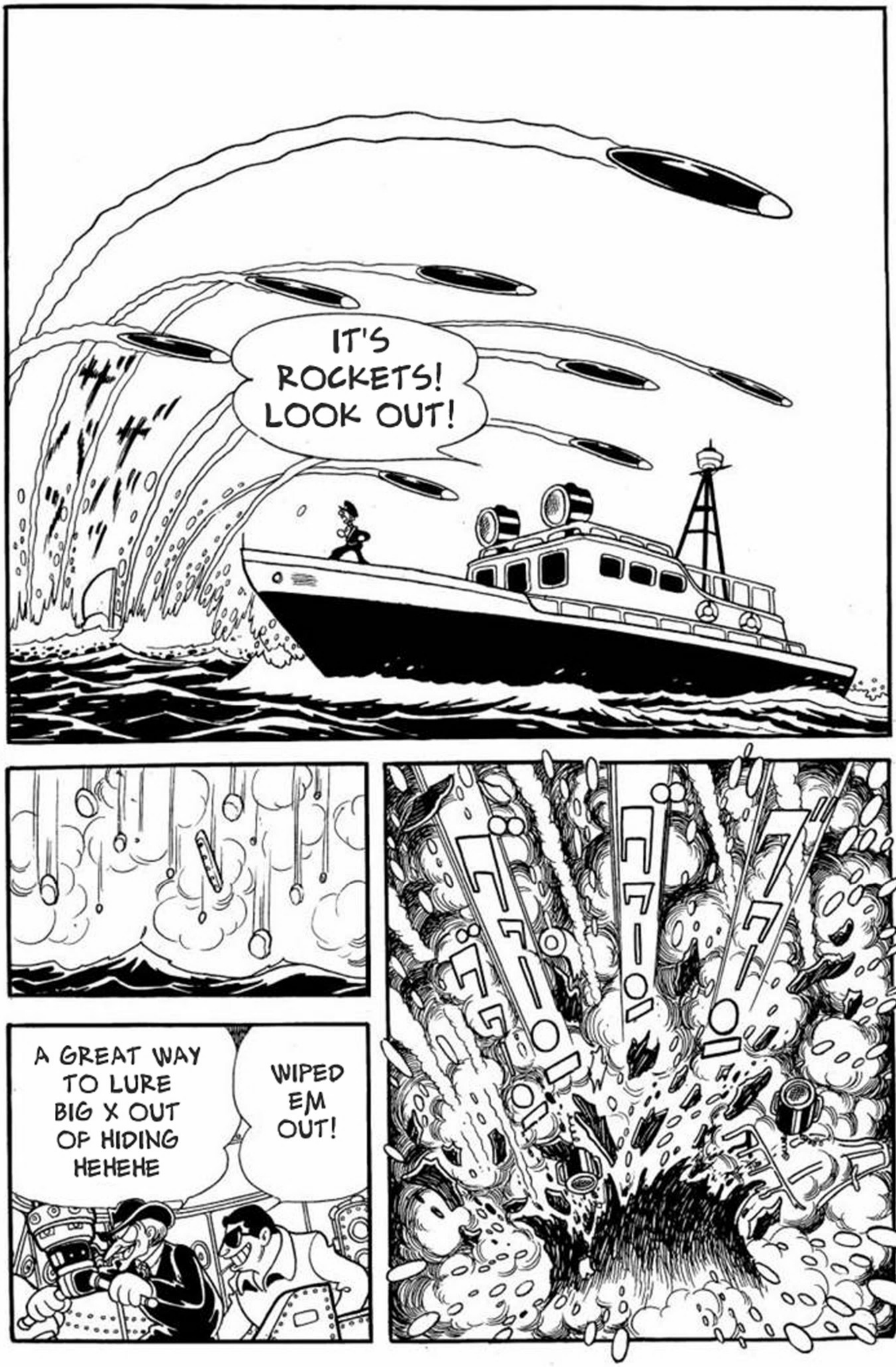

BUT IT'S TOO EARLY TO GIVE UP YET
YOU BUM!
BUT THAT PLAN HAS GONE UP IN SMOKE
WE TRIED TO GET BIG X BACK INTO THE HANDS OF THE NAZIS. MANY DIED IN THE ATTEMPT!
HMM... I SEE! NUMBER V-3!
WE'LL USE THIS!
THE CARD IS DESTROYED, BUT THE SERUM WASN'T. THE BOY HAS IT, IF WE CAN LURE HIM IN.

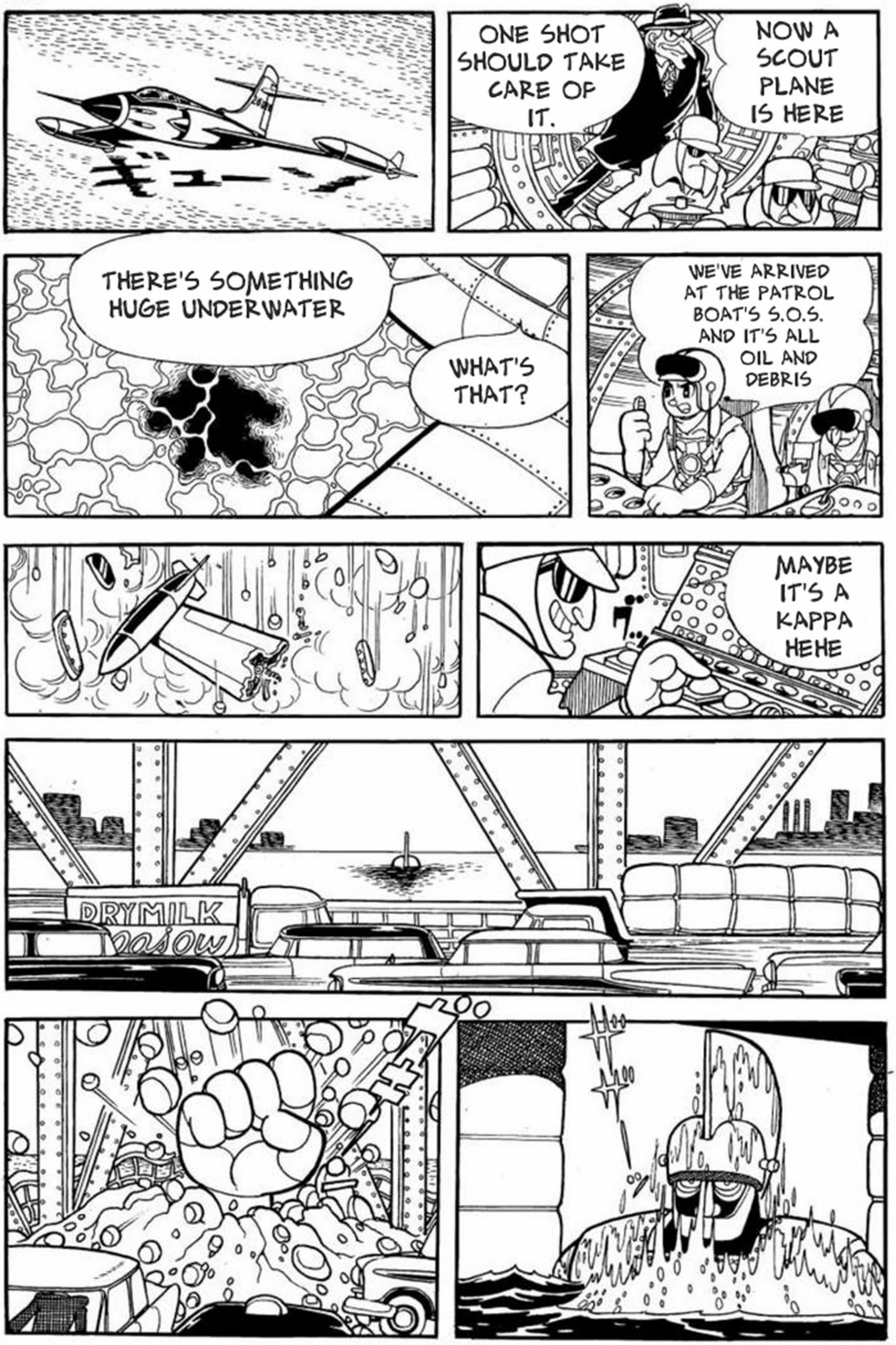

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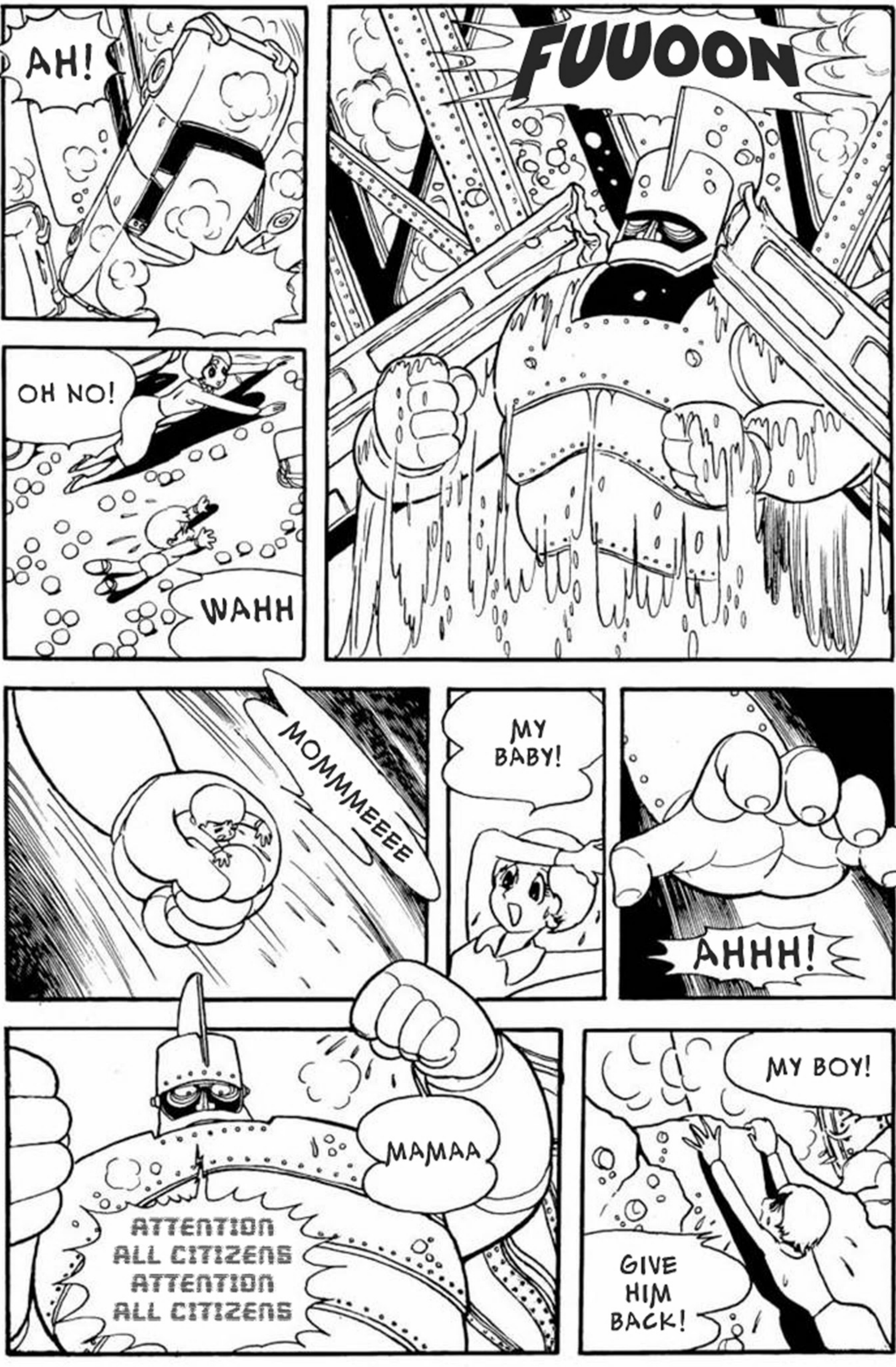

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UNFORTUNATELY IT DOESN'T WORK AS WELL AS IT SHOULD UNLESS YOU KEEP IT CLOSE BY
PUT A PILOT IN A SUBMARINE AND TAKE IT TO JAPAN BY SEA
GOOD IDEA BOSS!
HEHEHEHE BIG X, THIS DECOY WILL GET YOUR ATTENTION


WHEN WE GET TO JAPAN WE'LL CAUSE SOME HAVOC IN TOKYO
ALREADY... THE WATERS AROUND TOKYO
OKAY, LET'S SURFACE
MAYBE THEY'LL ALERT THE COAST GUARD
HEHEHE I THINK THEY'VE NOTICED US
SIR! AN EXTREMELY HUGE OBJECT IS APPROACHING THE MAINLAND!
THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECT 50 KM OFF THE COAST AND STOPPED MOVING
WE'LL USE THE ROCKETS ON THEM. GET EM READY!

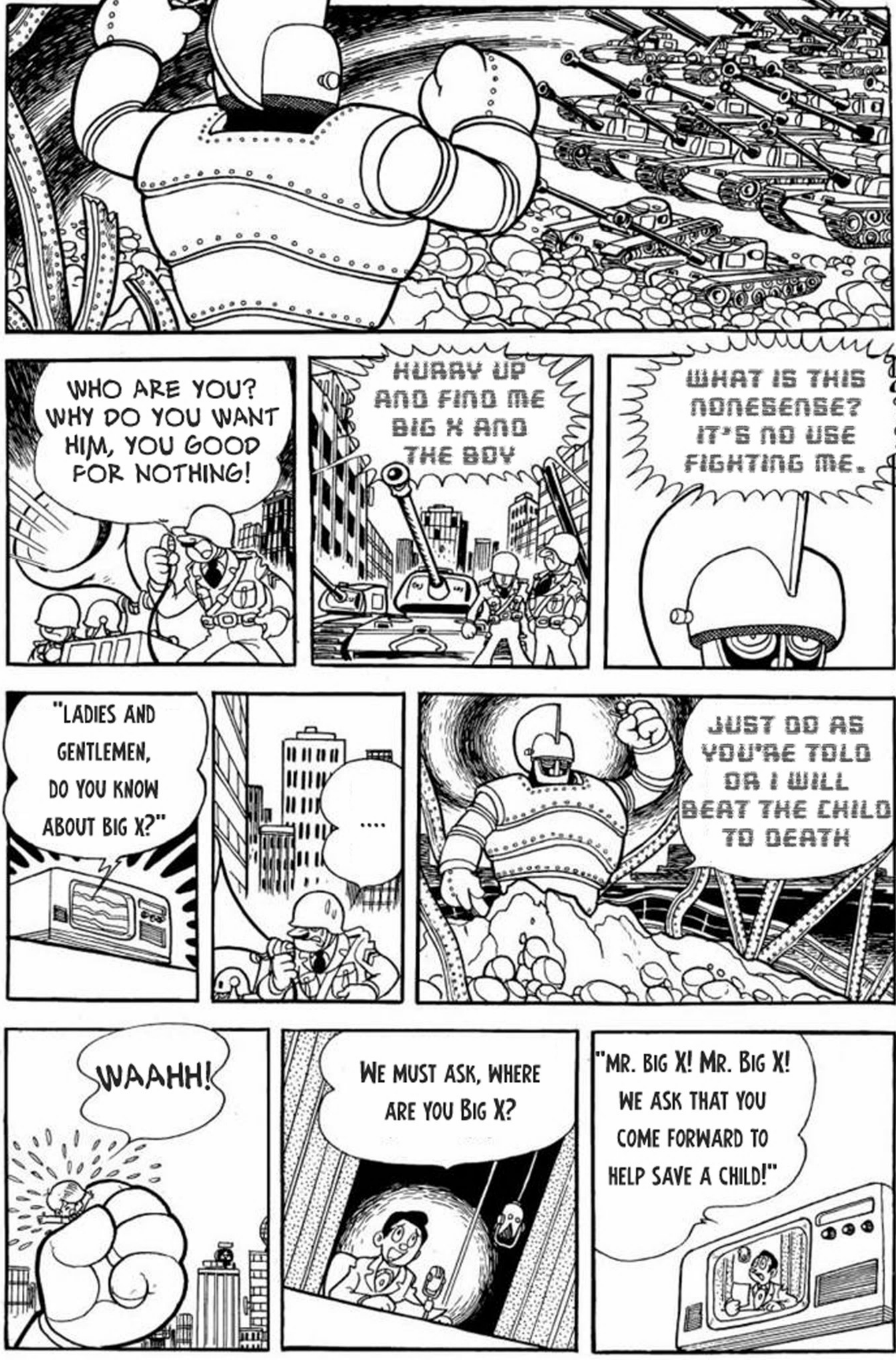

IT LOOKS LIKE A WEIRD MONSTER
WHAT IS THAT?
WHA? IT'S FIRED SOMETHING AT US!


IT'S ROCKETS! LOOK OUT!
WIPED EM OUT!
A GREAT WAY TO LURE BIG X OUT OF HIDING HEHEHE

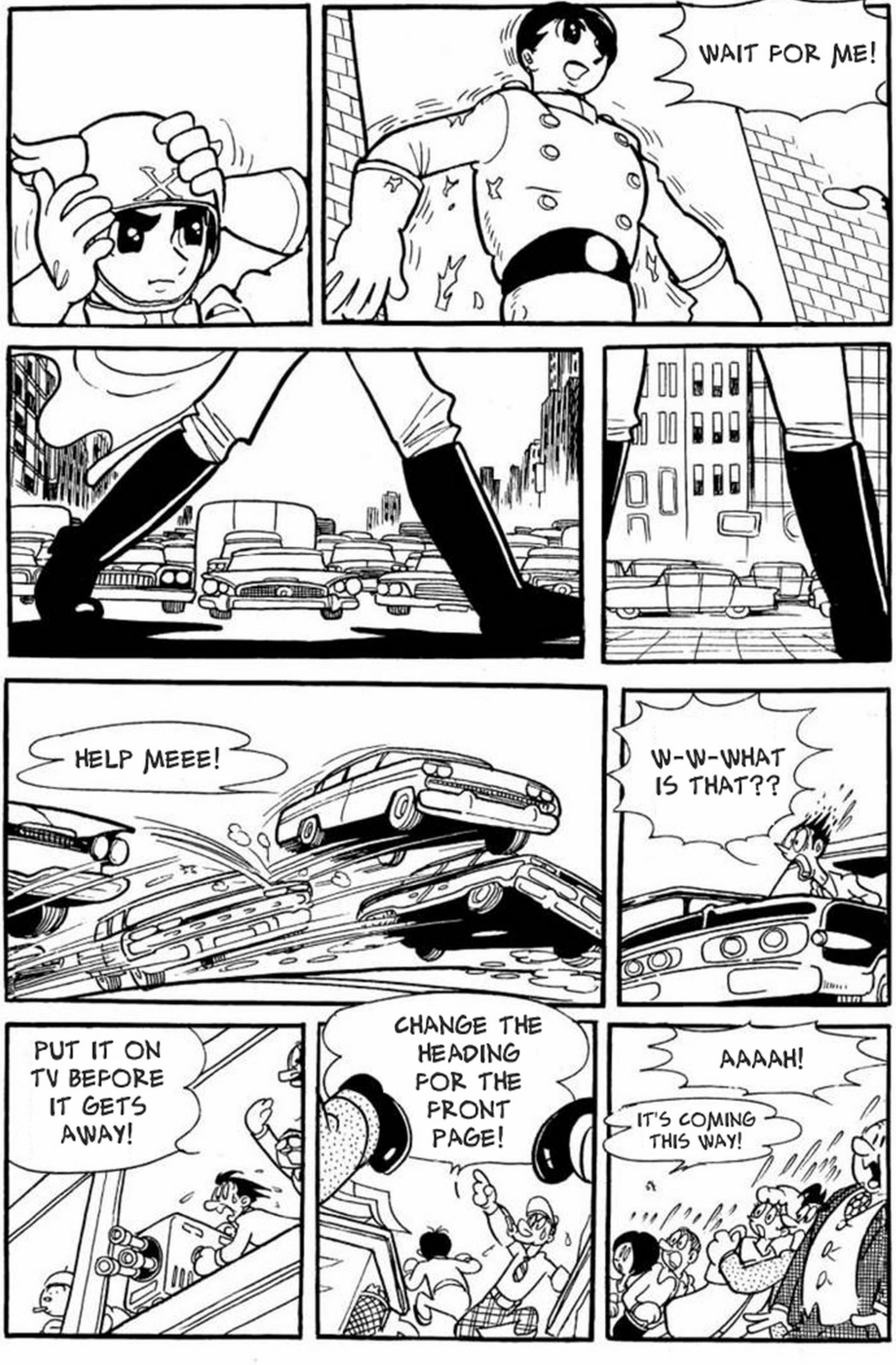

NOW A SCOUT PLANE IS HERE
ONE SHOT SHOULD TAKE CARE OF IT.
WE'VE ARRIVED AT THE PATROL BOAT'S S.O.S. AND IT'S ALL OIL AND DEBRIS
THERE'S SOMETHING HUGE UNDERWATER
WHAT'S THAT?
MAYBE IT'S A KAPPA HEHE
DRYMILK

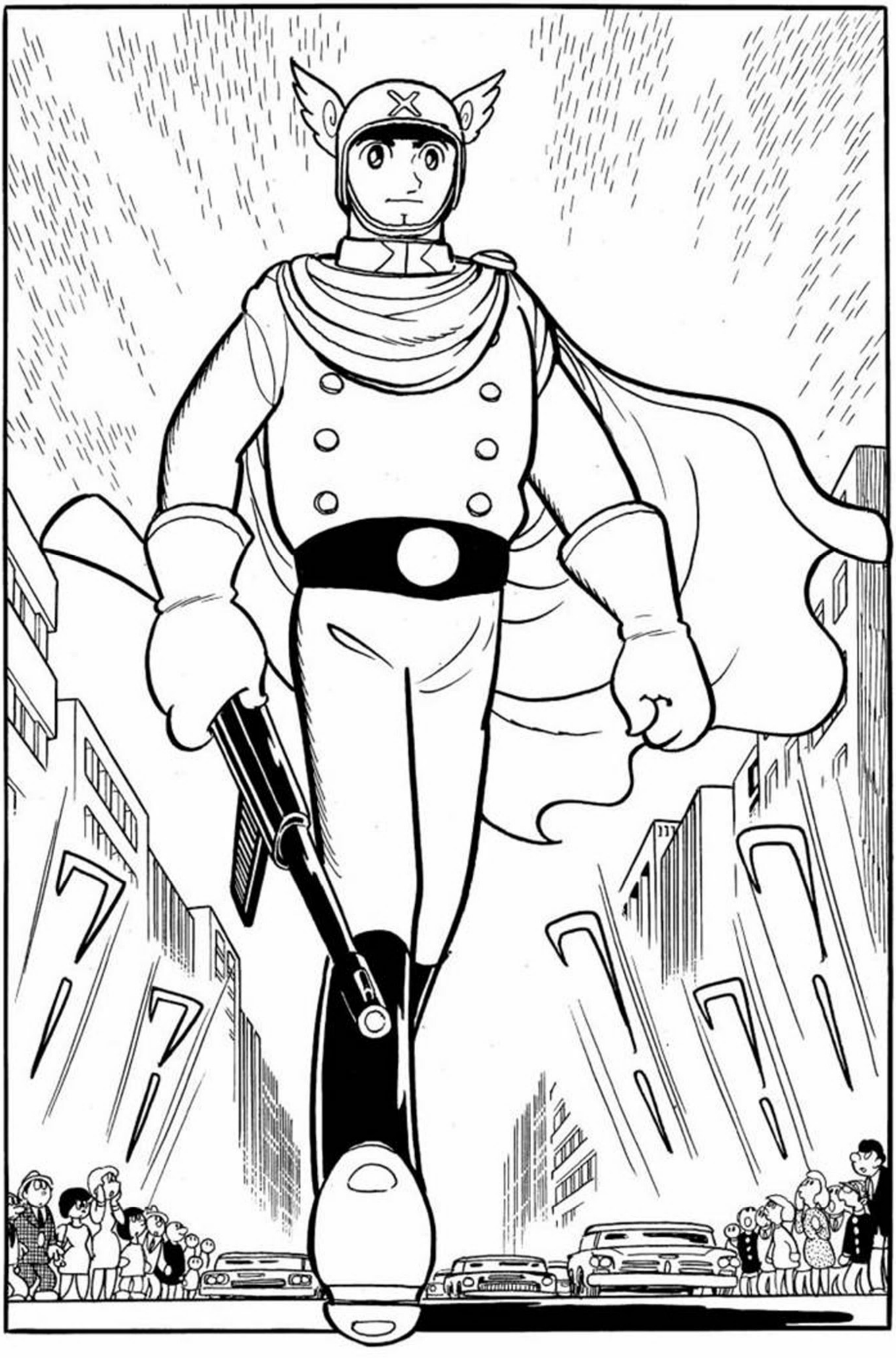

AH!
FUUOON
OH NO!
WAHH
MOMMMEEEE
MY BABY!
AHHH!
MAMAA
ATTENTION ALL CITIZENS ATTENTION ALL CITIZENS
MY BOY!
GIVE HIM BACK!

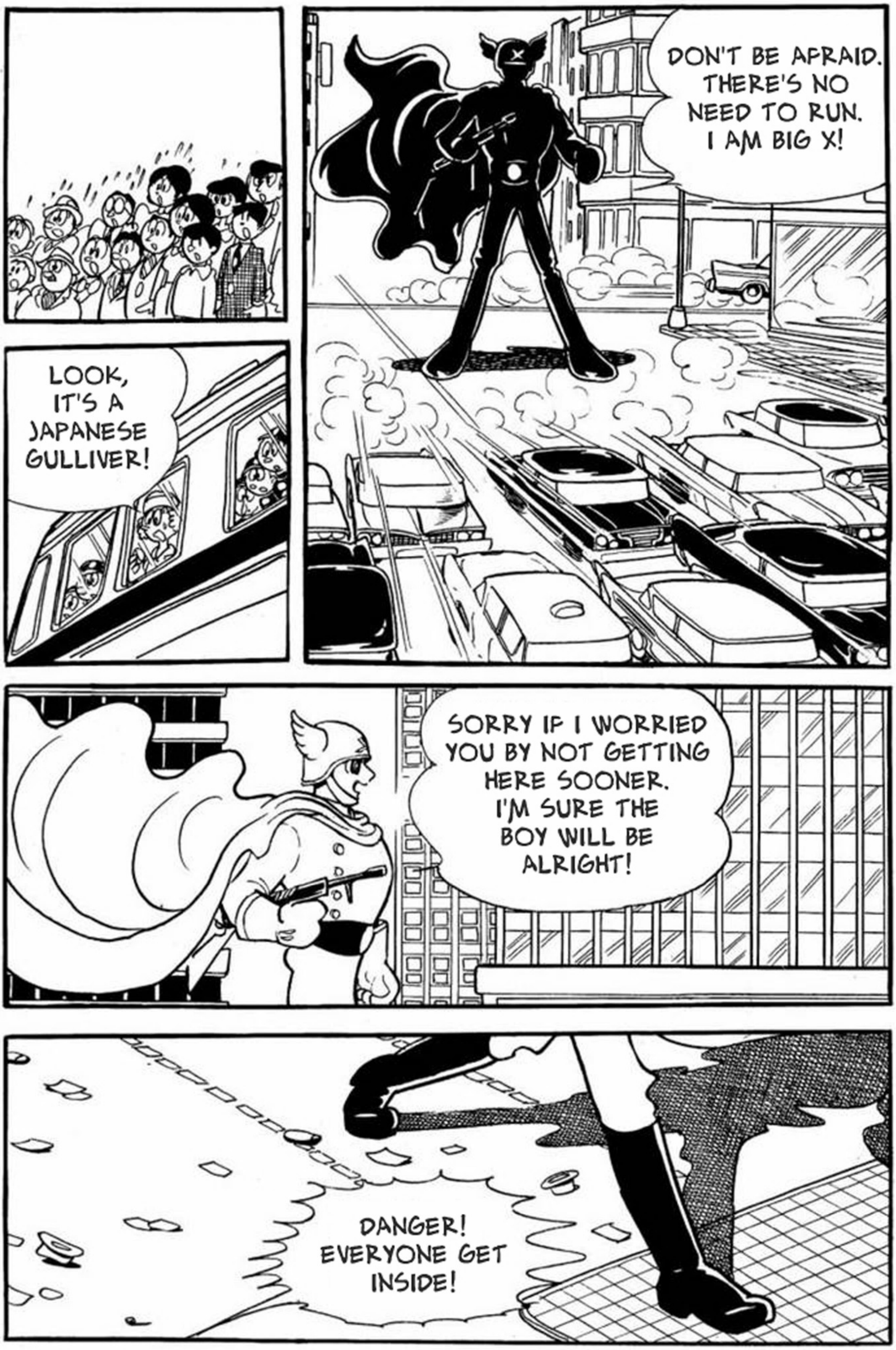

YOU HAVE ONE DAY TO BRING THE BOY WITH BIG X TO ME
THIS CHILD IS A HOSTAGE. I HAVE ONE CONDITION FOR HIS RETURN
IF THE BOY AND BIG X DO NOT APPEAR, THE CHILD WILL DIE
NOOOO!
MA'AM, DON T DO ANYTHING FOOLISH!
HOLD FIRE! WE DON'T WANT TO HIT THAT KID IN HIS HAND.
CAPTAIN, DO YOU WANT TO FIRE?

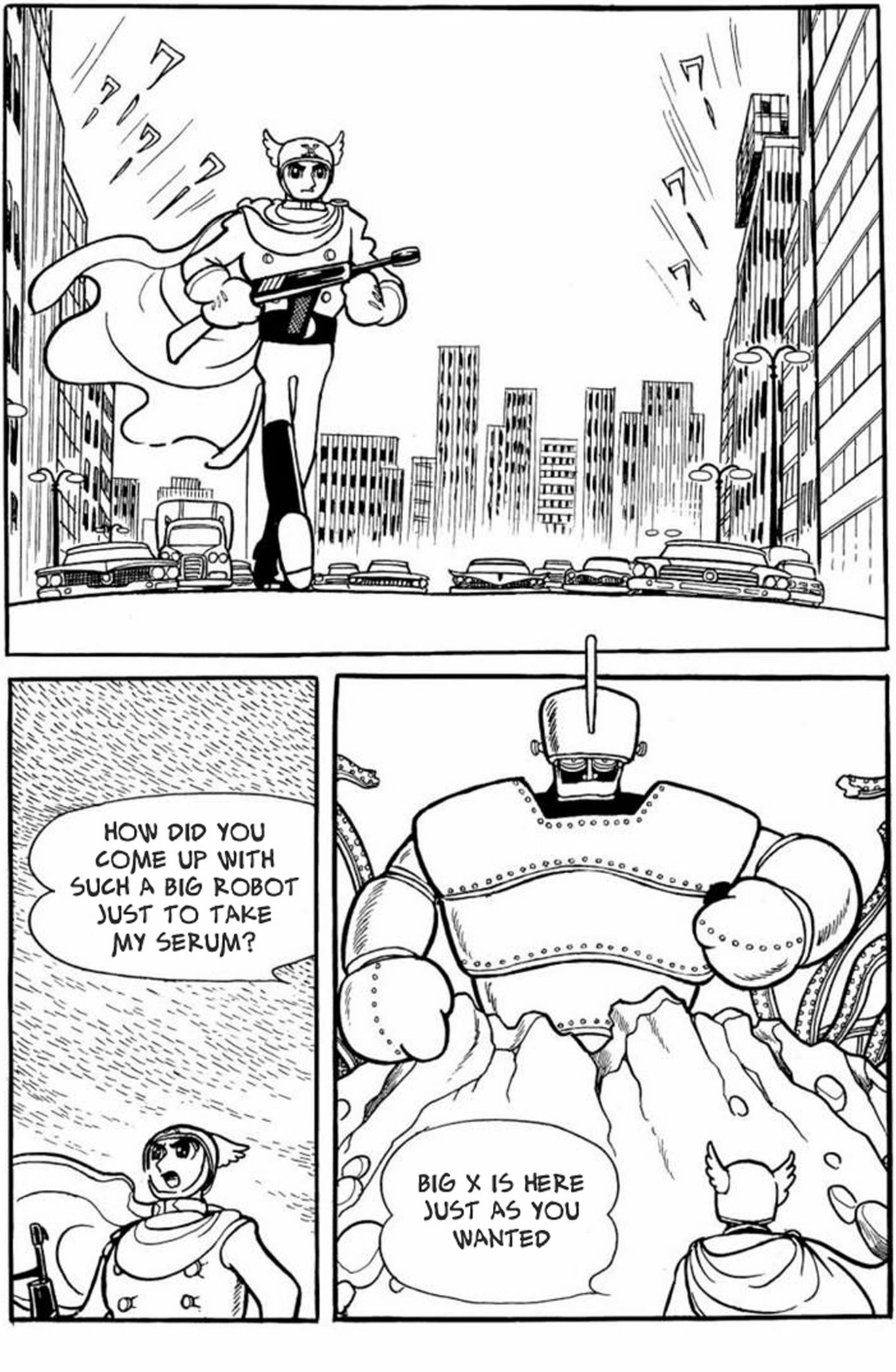

WHO ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU WANT HIM, YOU GOOD FOR NOTHING!
HURRY UP AND FIND ME BIG X AND THE BOY
WHAT IS THIS NONESENSE? IT'S NO USE FIGHTING ME.
"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BIG X?"
....
JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD OR I WILL BEAT THE CHILD TO DEATH
WAAHH!
WE MUST ASK, WHERE ARE YOU BIG X?
"MR. BIG X! MR. BIG X! WE ASK THAT YOU COME FORWARD TO HELP SAVE A CHILD!"

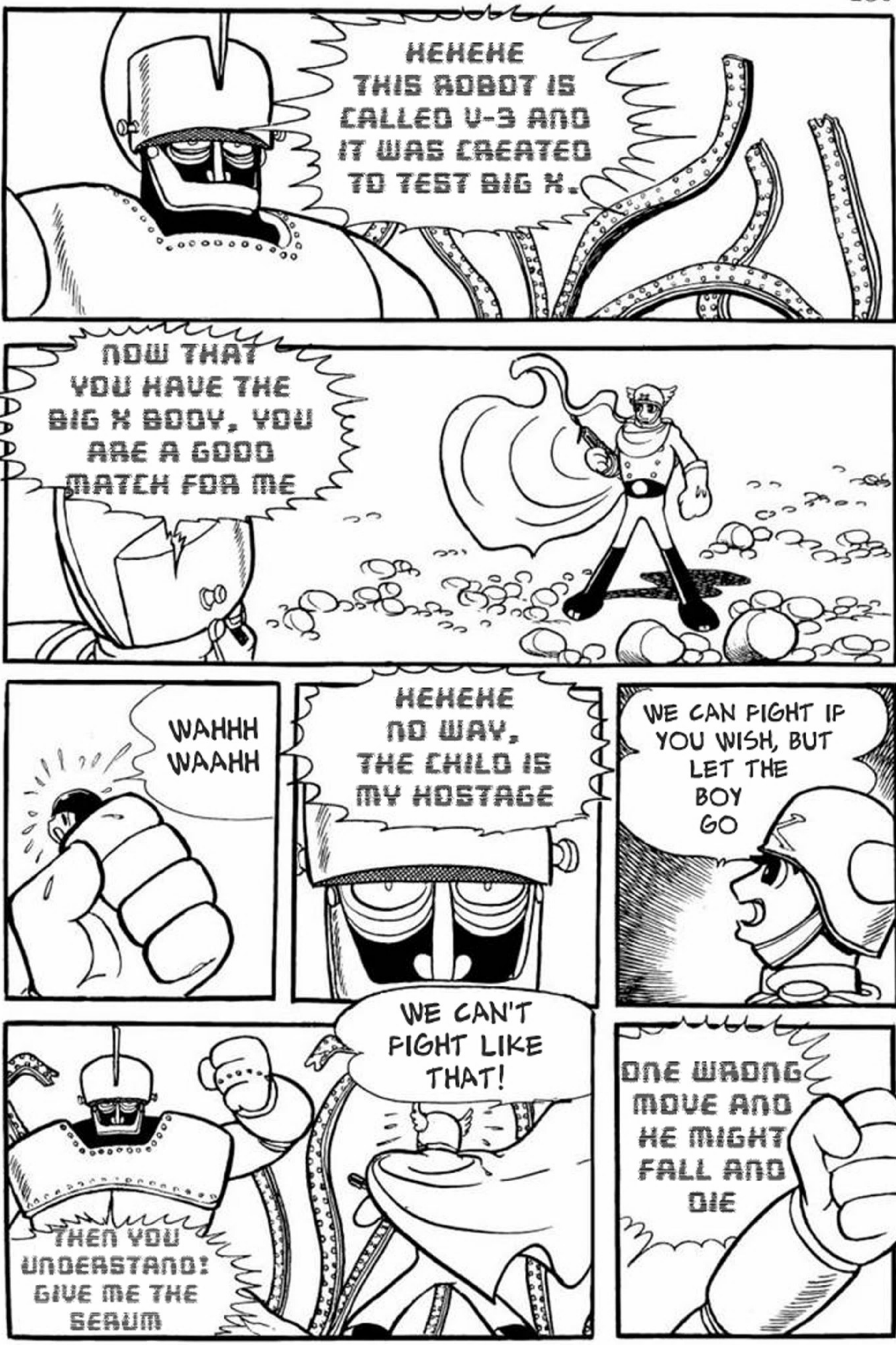

THAT'S A HELL OF A WAY FOR THE NAZIS TO FIND ME.
IT'S CERTAINLY A TRAP.
BIG X, PLEASE COME QUICKLY!
BUT IF I COME OUT NOW ....
BIG X COULD FALL INTO THEIR TRAP AND THE SERUM STOLEN.
BUT IF I DON'T GO OUT, HE WILL KILL THE BOY
IT CAN'T BE HELPED ...
OKAY LEAGUE OF NAZIS... BIG X IS COMING!

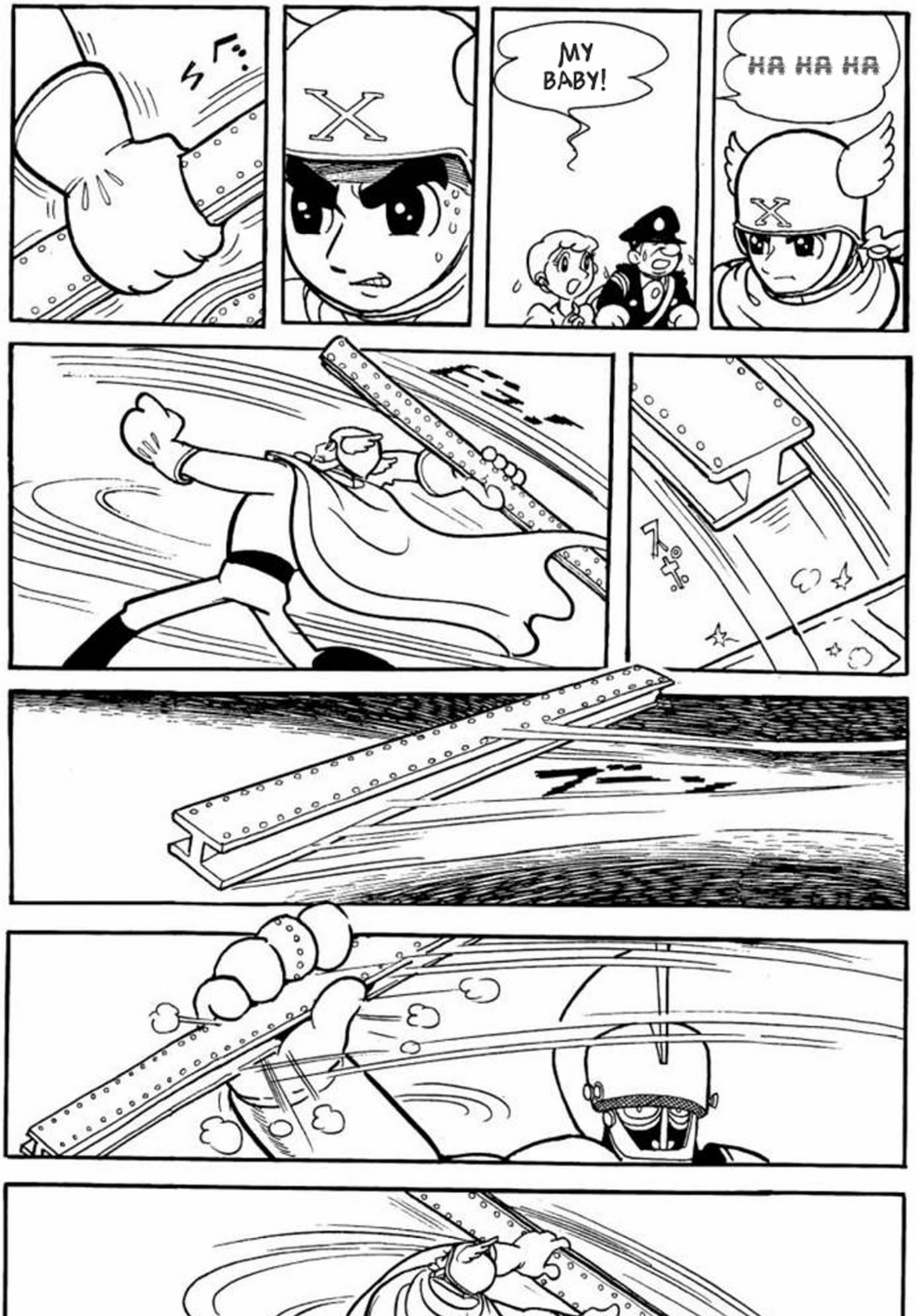

WAIT FOR ME!
HELP MEEE!
W-W-WHAT IS THAT??
PUT IT ON TV BEFORE IT GETS AWAY!
CHANGE THE HEADING FOR THE FRONT PAGE!
AAAAH!
IT'S COMING THIS WAY!

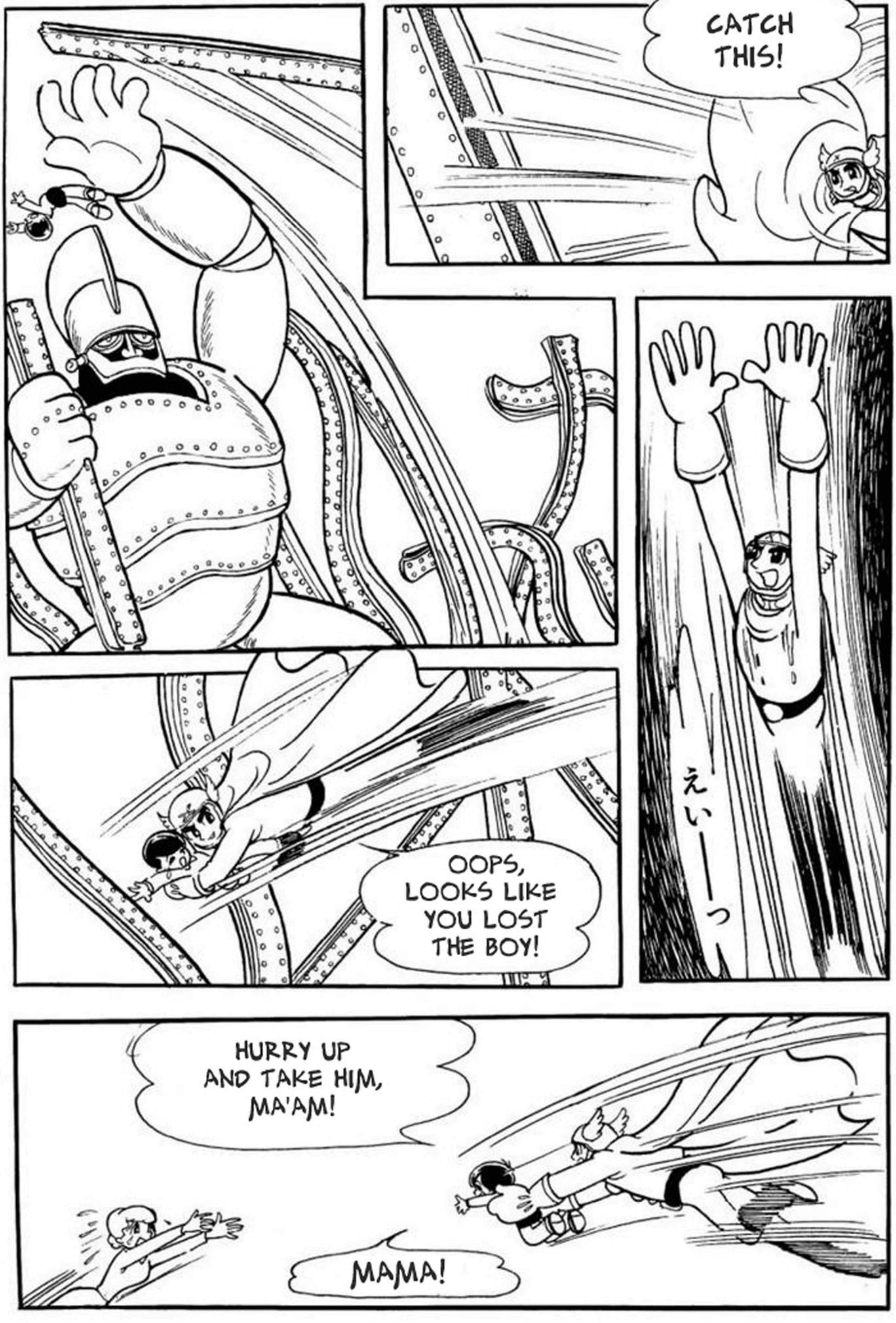


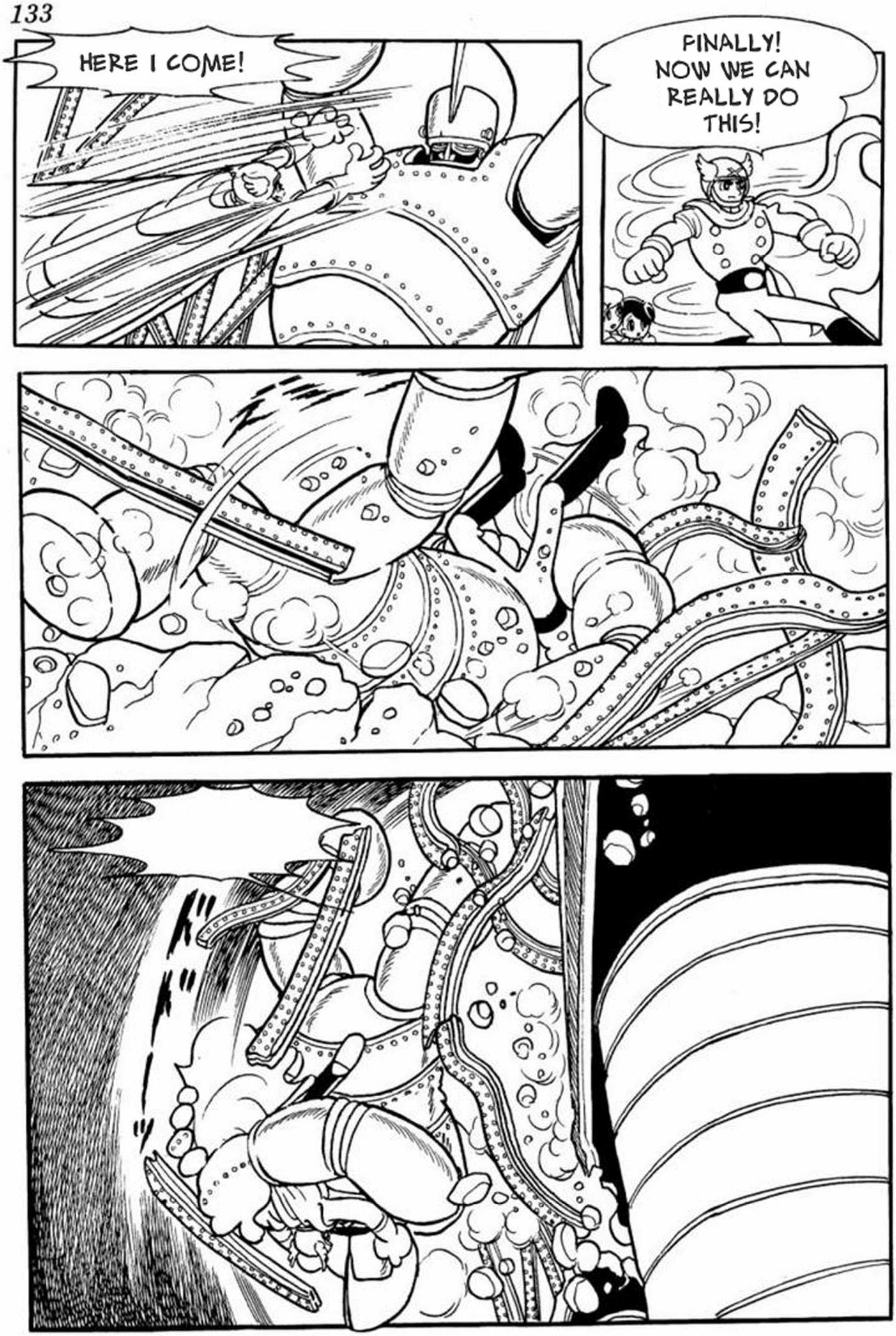

DON'T BE AFRAID. THERE'S NO NEED TO RUN. I AM BIG X!
LOOK, IT'S A JAPANESE GULLIVER!
SORRY IF I WORRIED YOU BY NOT GETTING HERE SOONER. I'M SURE THE BOY WILL BE ALRIGHT!
DANGER! EVERYONE GET INSIDE!

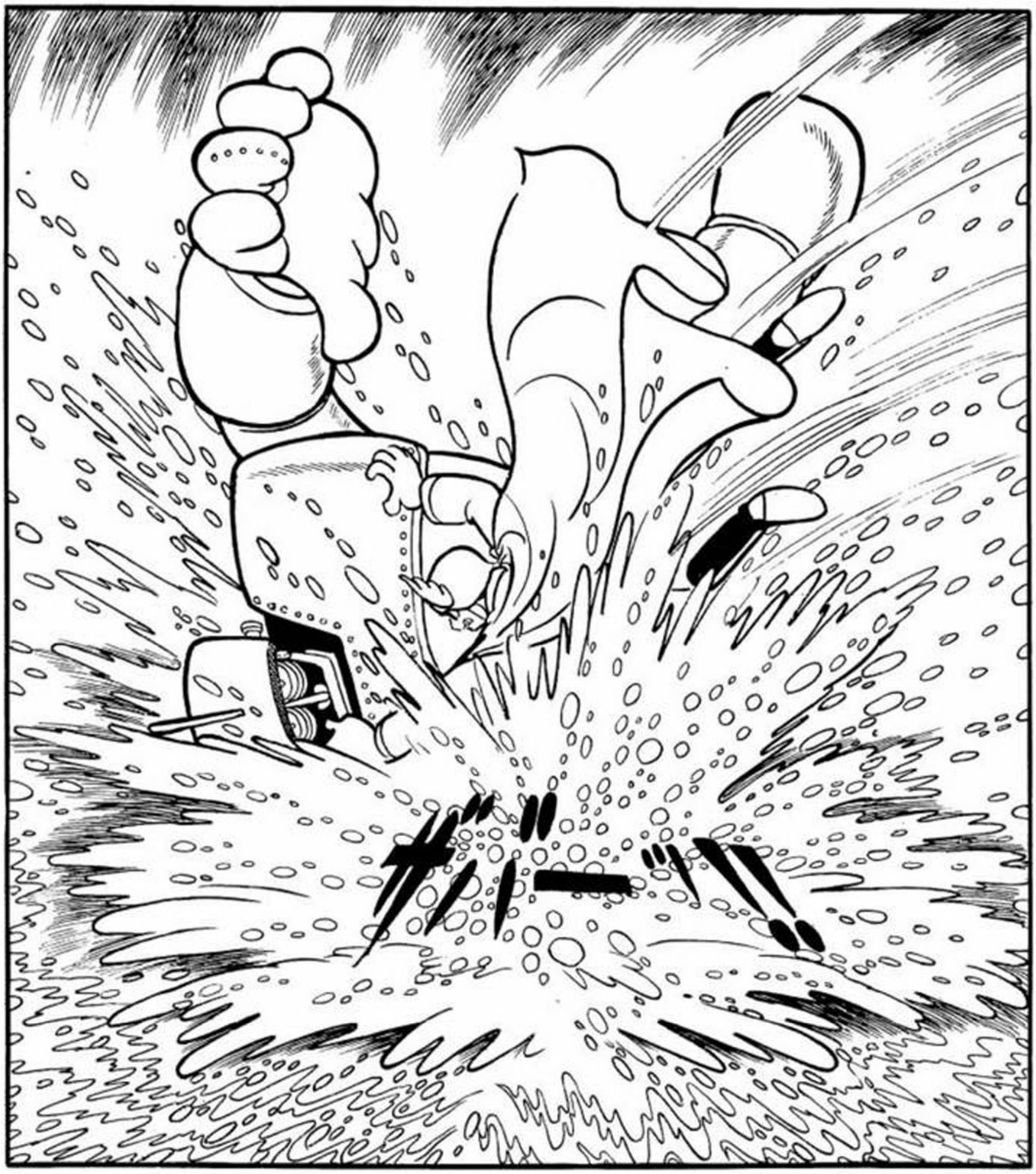

HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH SUCH A BIG ROBOT JUST TO TAKE MY SERUM?
BIG X IS HERE JUST AS YOU WANTED

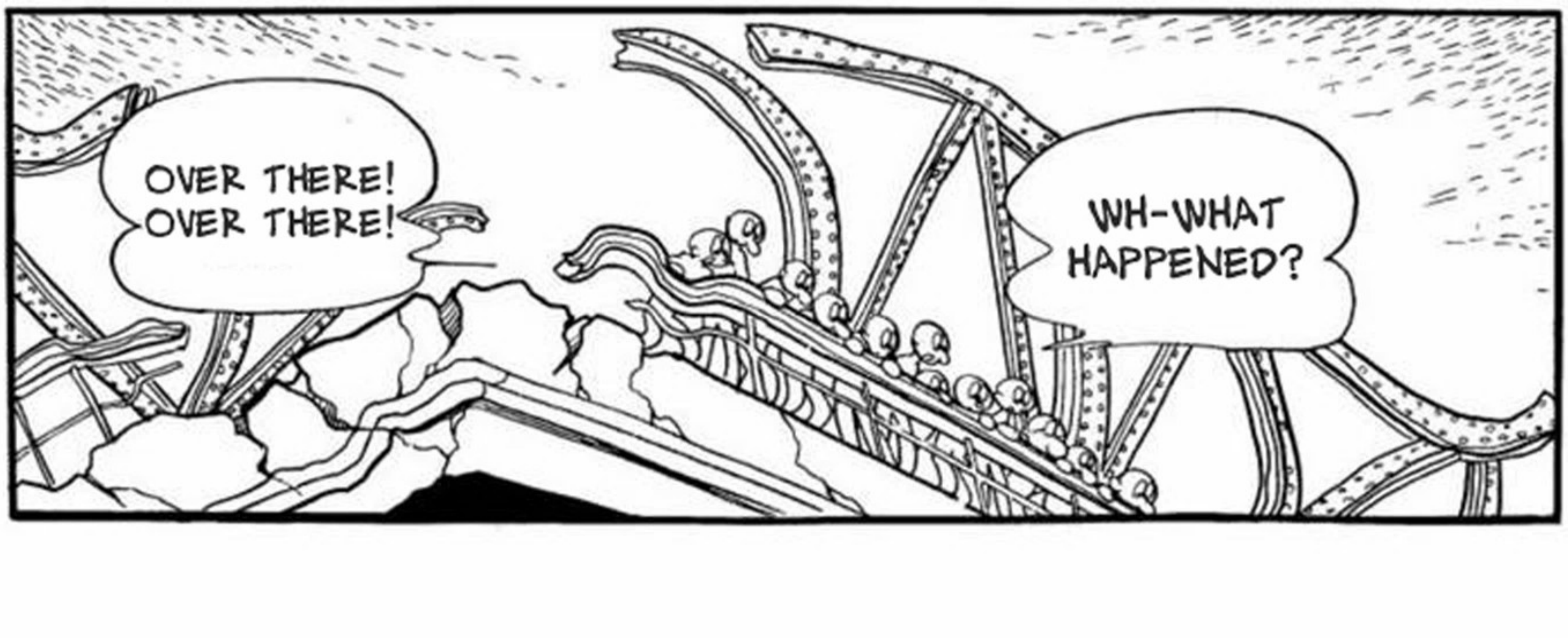

HEHEHE THIS ROBOT IS CALLED V-3 AND IT WAS CREATED TO TEST BIG X.
NOW THAT YOU HAVE THE BIG X BODY, YOU ARE A GOOD MATCH FOR ME
WAHHH WAAHH
HEHEHE NO WAY, THE CHILD IS MY HOSTAGE
WE CAN FIGHT IF YOU WISH, BUT LET THE BOY GO
WE CAN'T FIGHT LIKE THAT!
THEN YOU UNDERSTAND! GIVE ME THE SERUM
ONE WRONG MOVE AND HE MIGHT FALL AND DIE

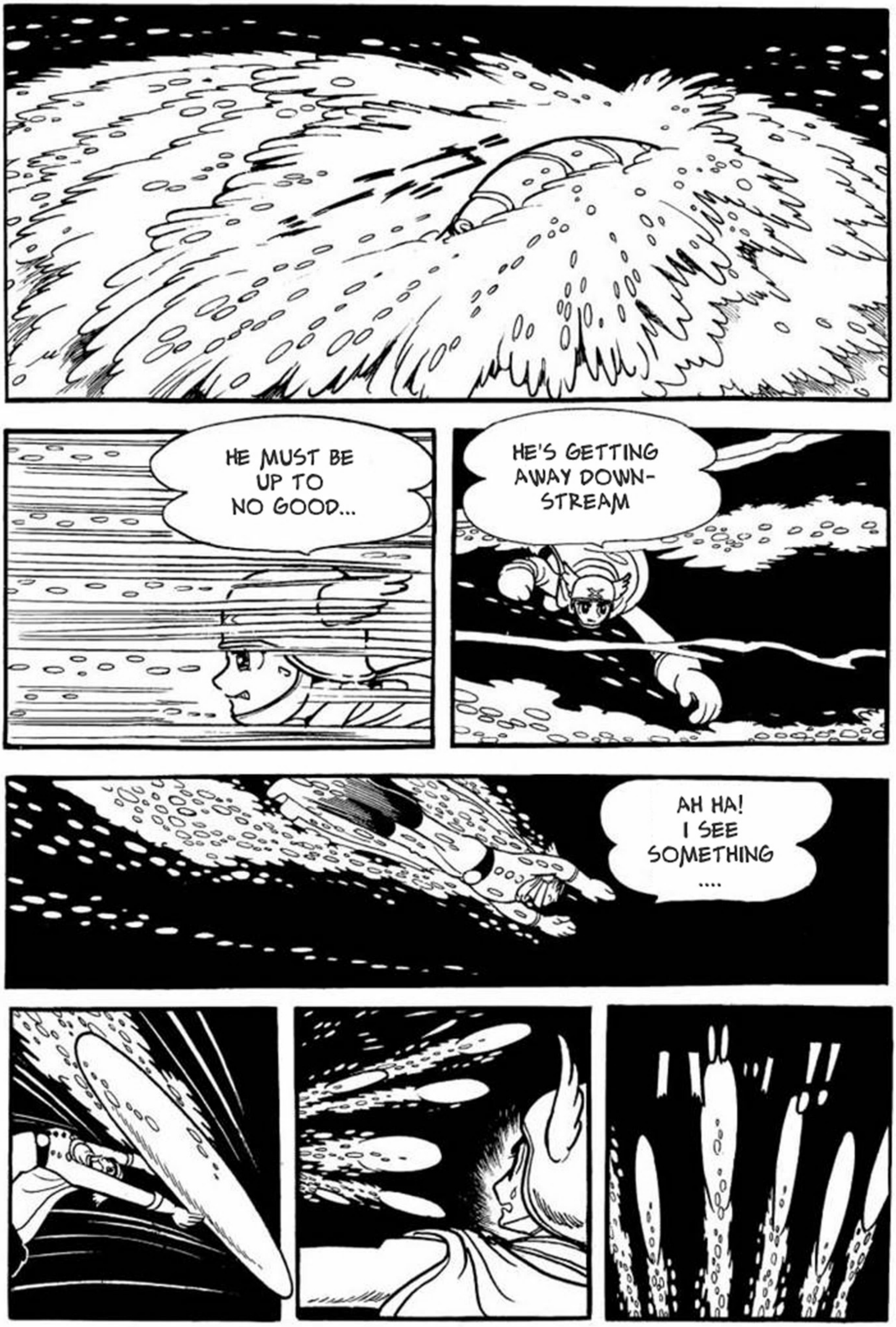

MY BABY!
HA HA HA


CATCH THIS!
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OOPS, LOOKS LIKE YOU LOST THE BOY!
HURRY UP AND TAKE HIM, MA'AM!
MAMA!

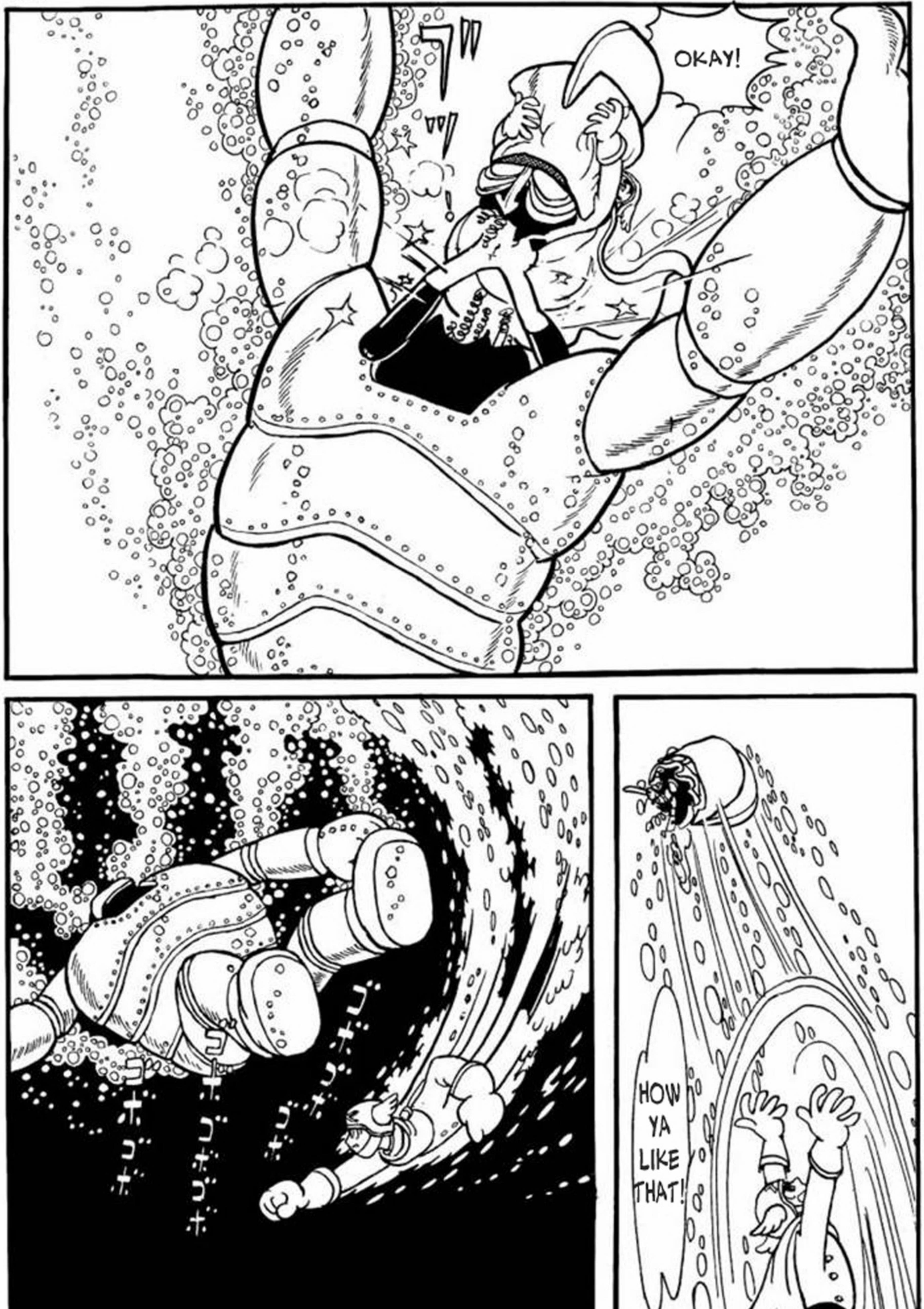

HERE I COME!
FINALLY! NOW WE CAN REALLY DO THIS!


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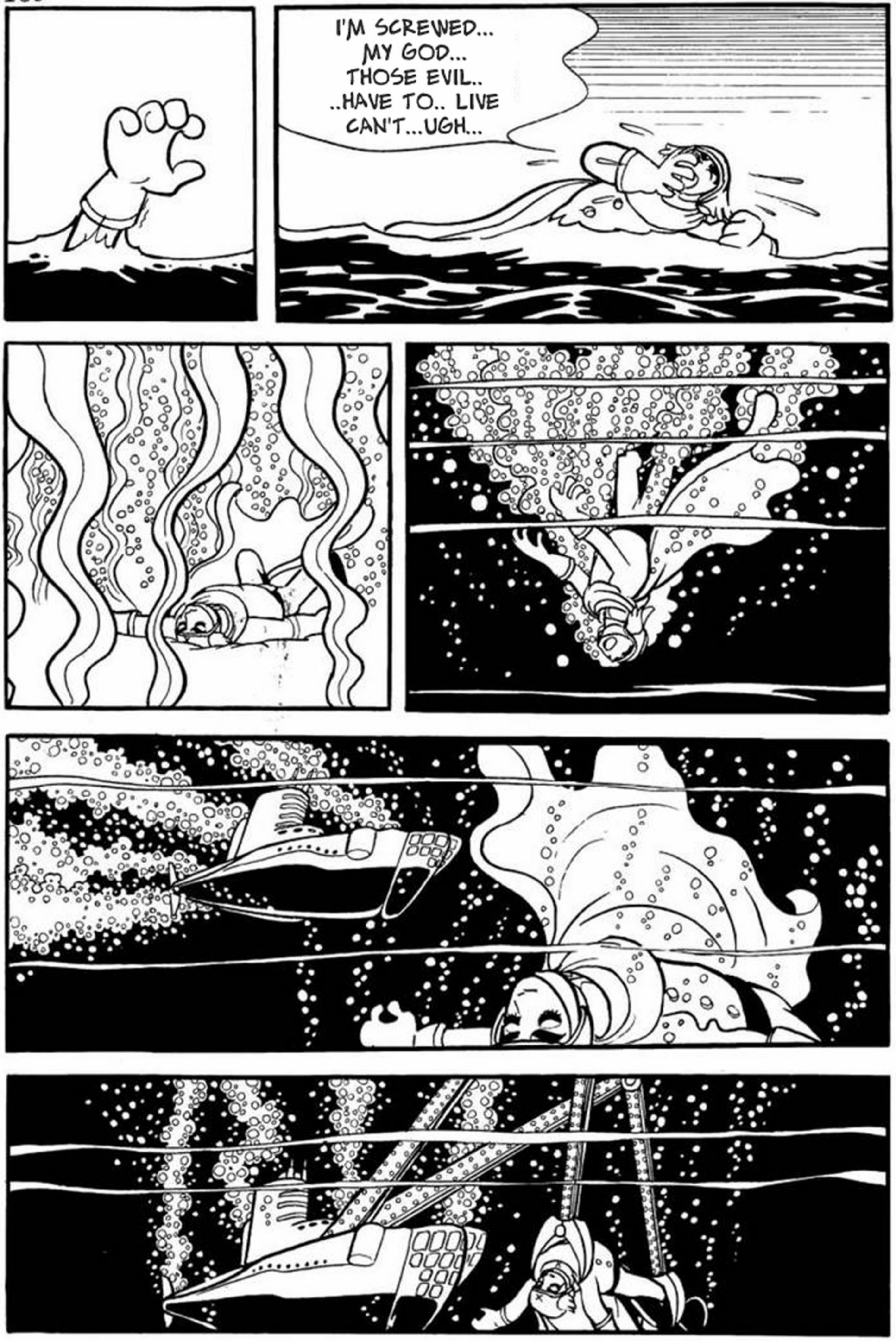

WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
OVER THERE! OVER THERE!

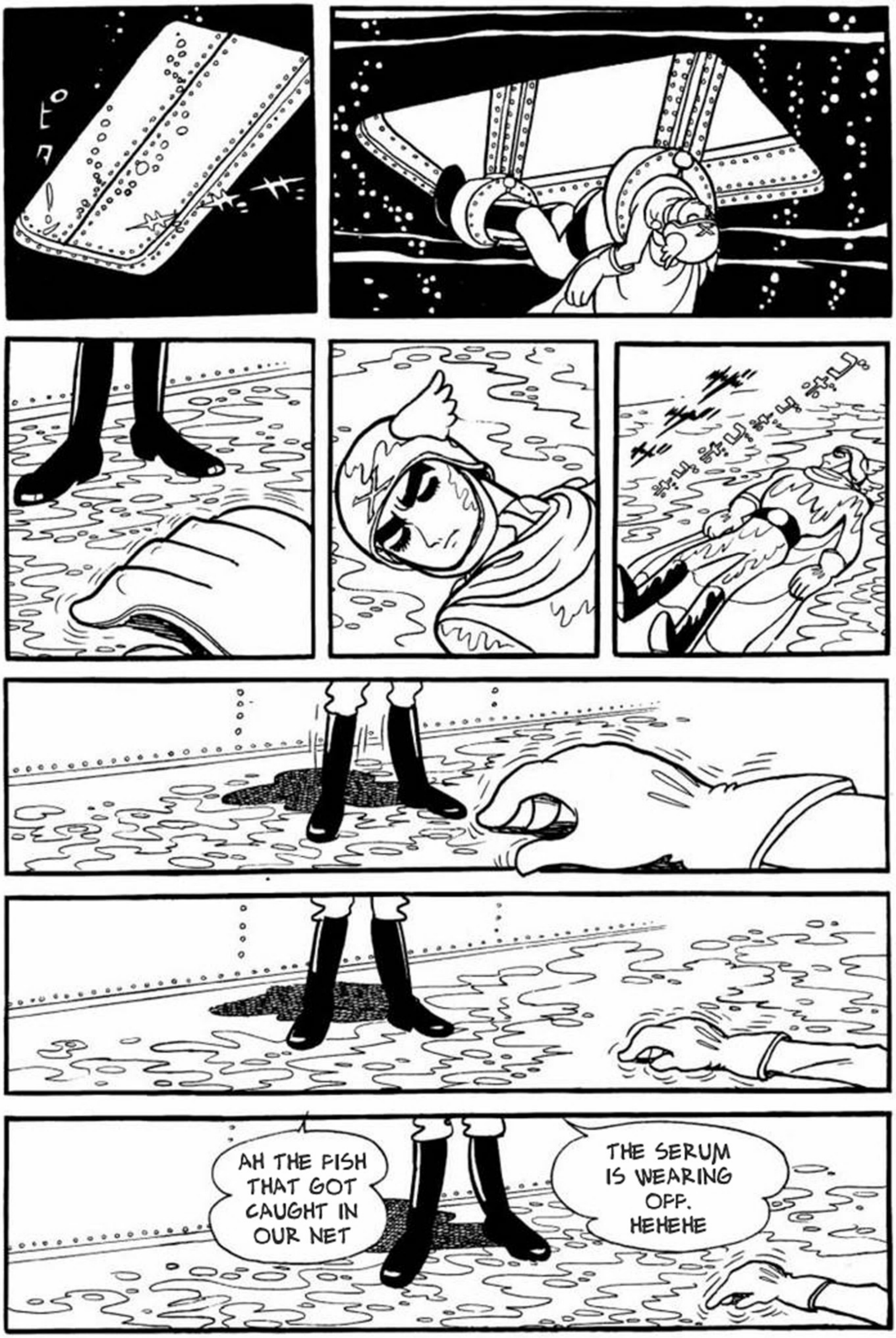

HE MUST BE UP TO NO GOOD...
HE'S GETTING AWAY DOWN-STREAM
AH HA! I SEE SOMETHING ....
!!

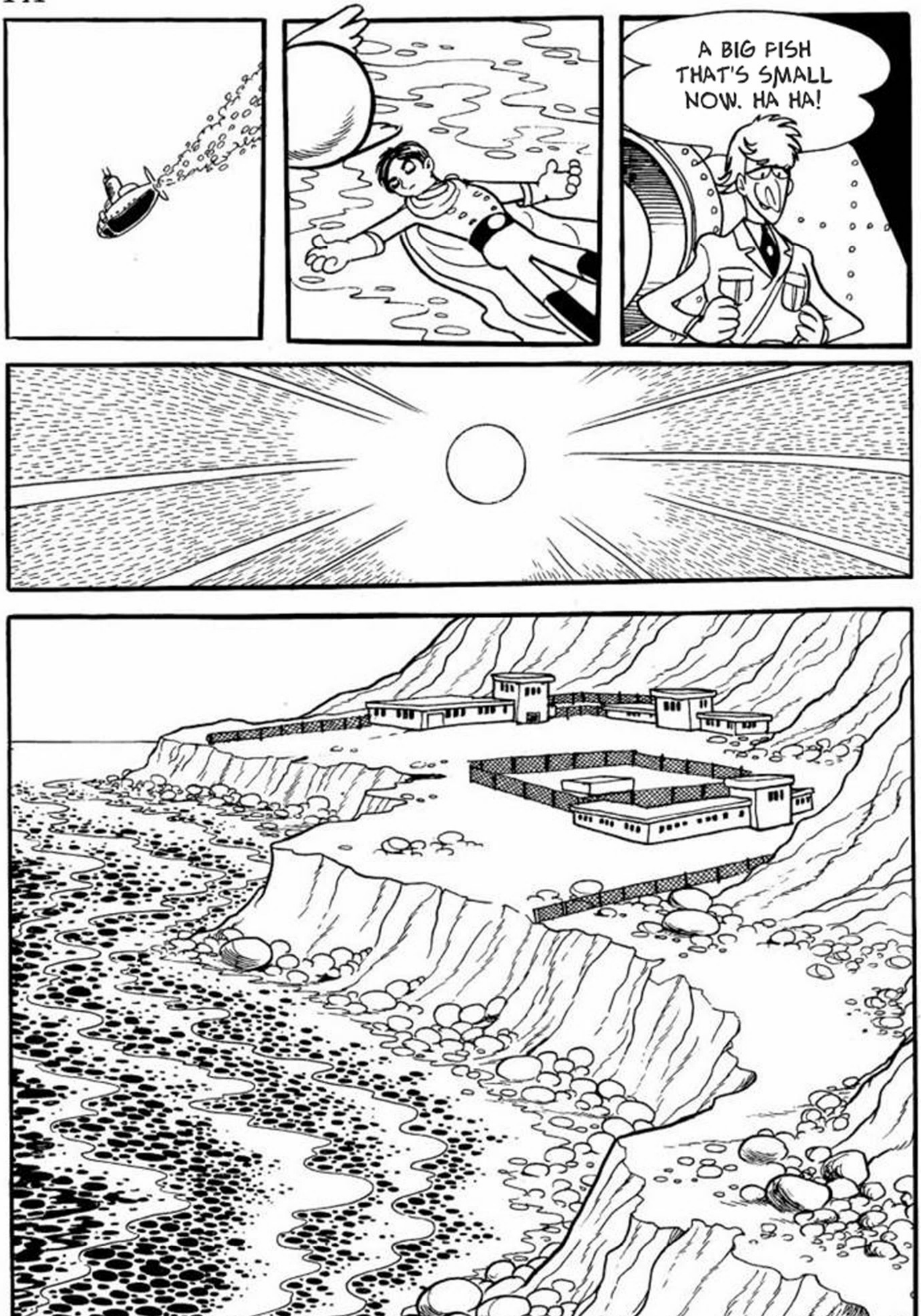

YAHH!
KERANG!


OKAY!
HOW YA LIKE THAT!

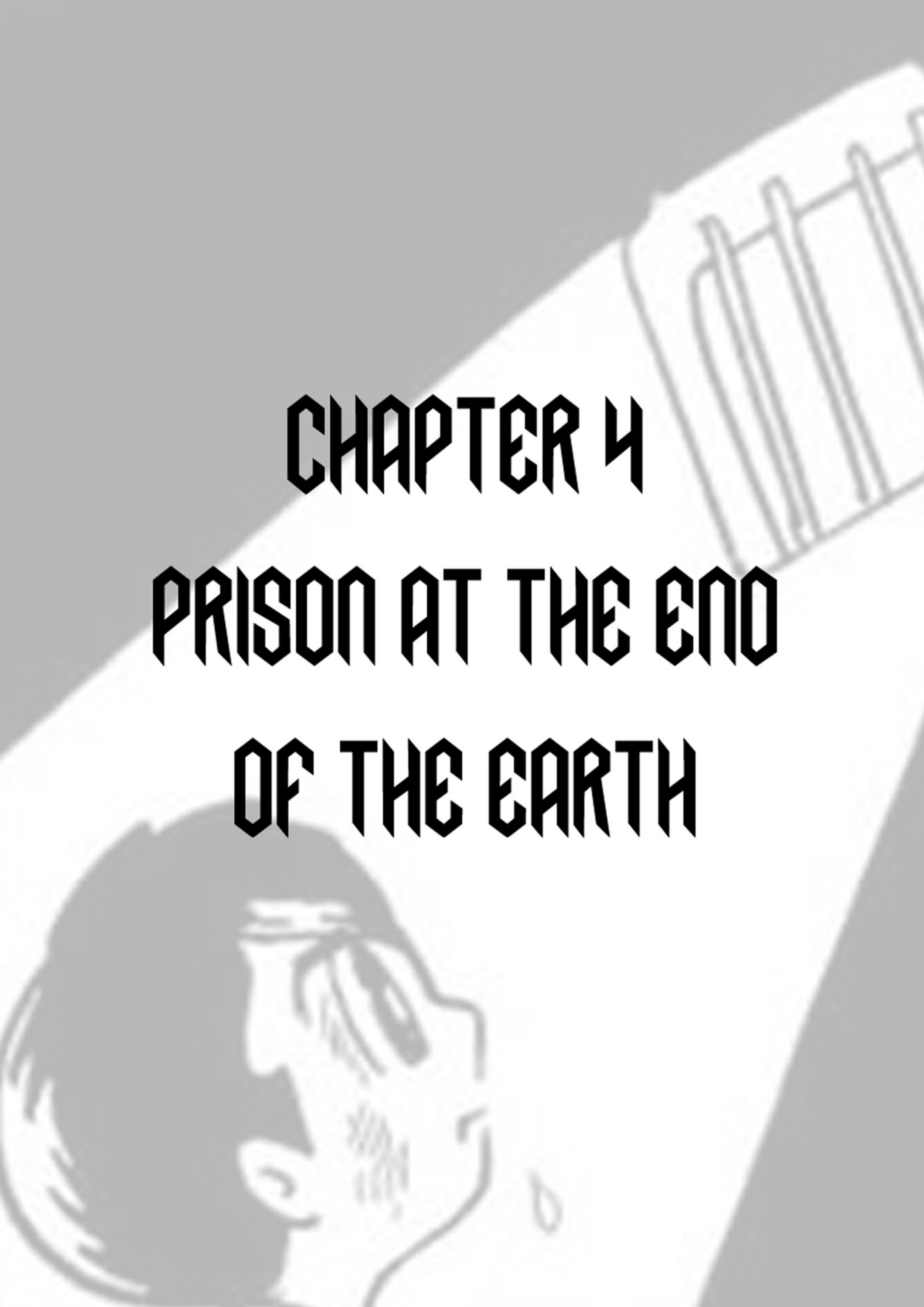

OHHH
DAMN, THERE'S SOME KIND OF TOXIC FLUID IN THE WATER
MUST'VE BEEN A POISON HOUSED IN THE ROBOT'S BODY

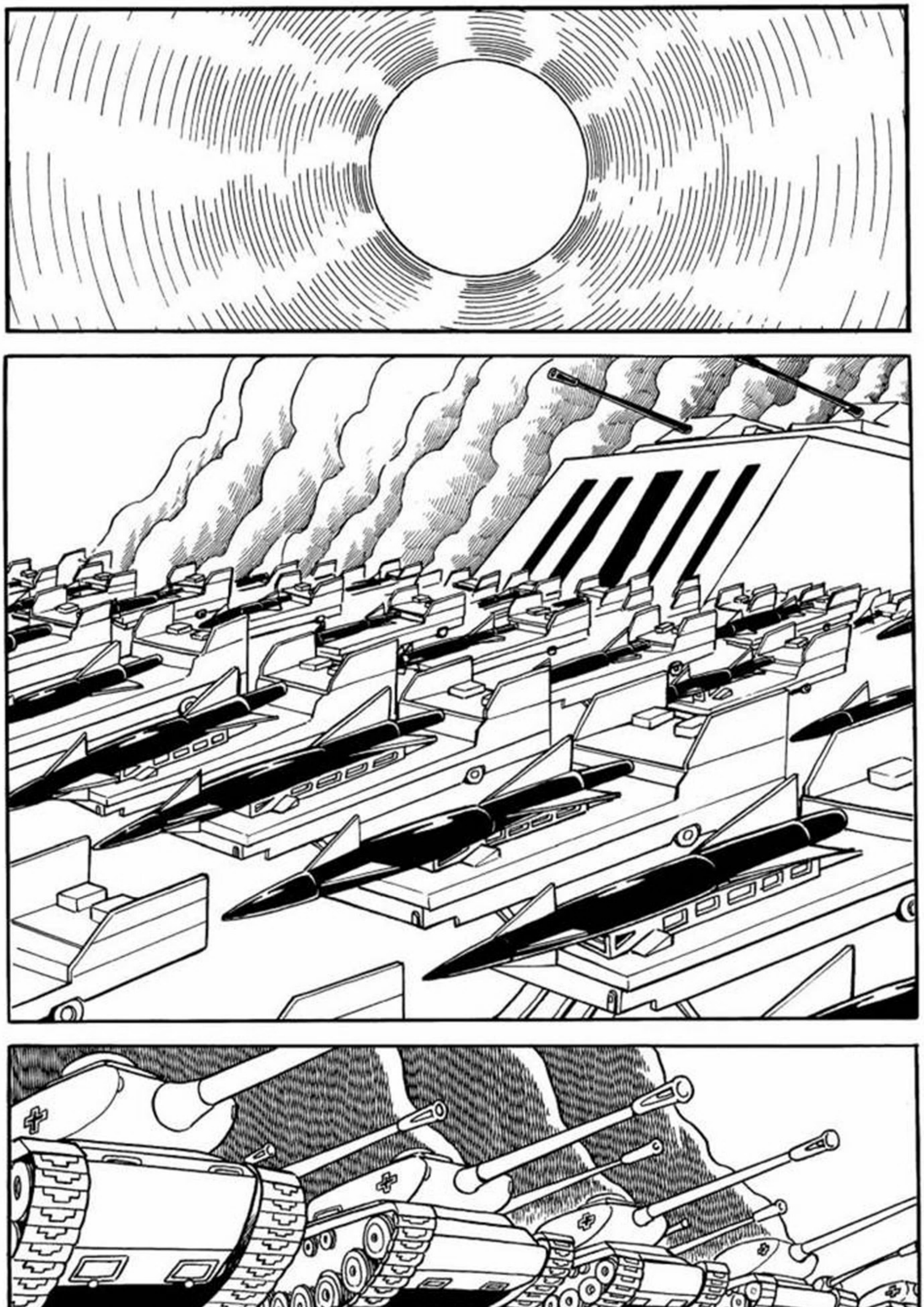

I'M SCREWED...
MY GOD...
THOSE EVIL..
..HAVE TO.. LIVE
CAN'T...UGH...

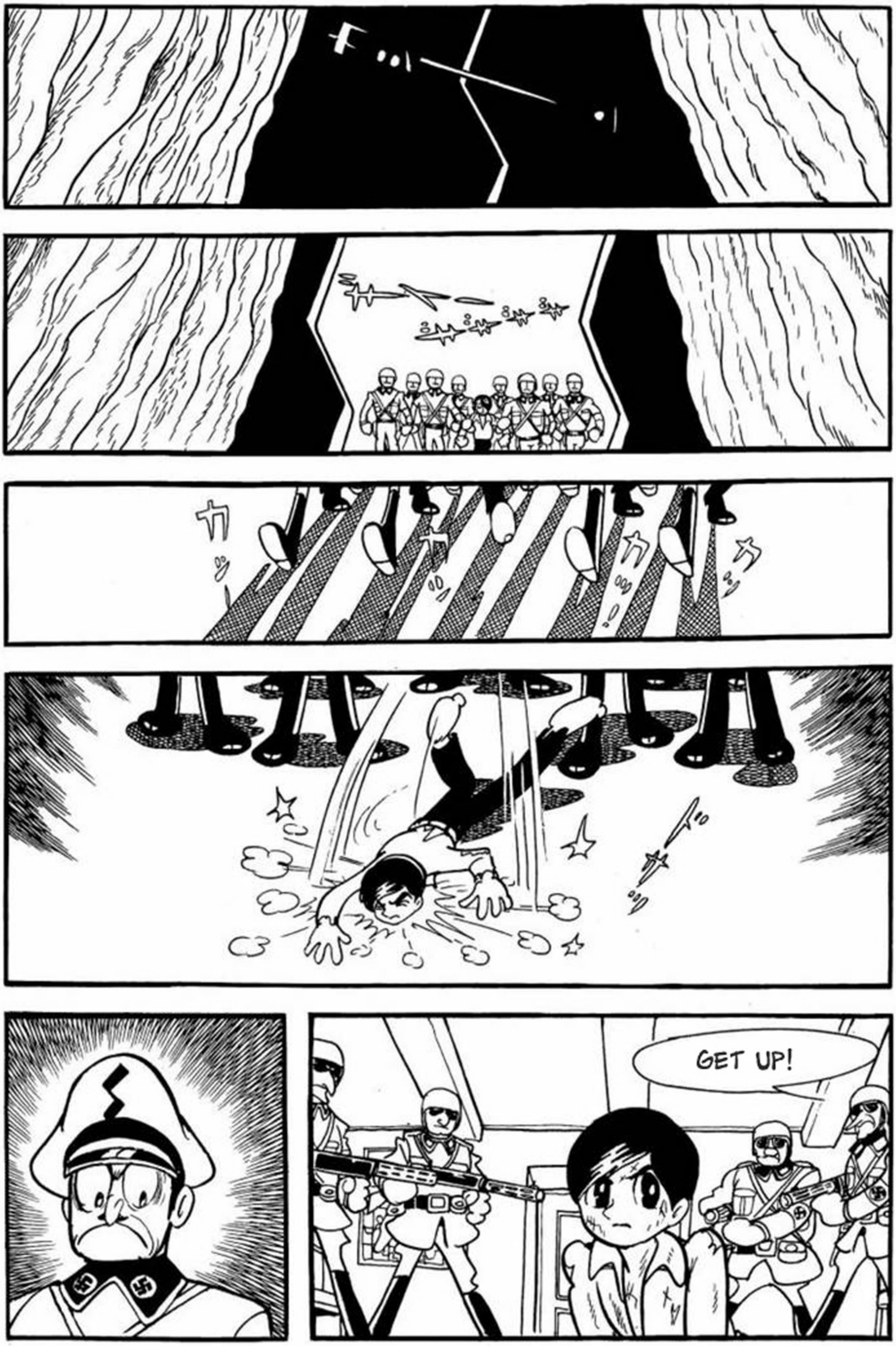

THE SERUM IS WEARING OFF. HEHEHE
AH THE FISH THAT GOT CAUGHT IN OUR NET

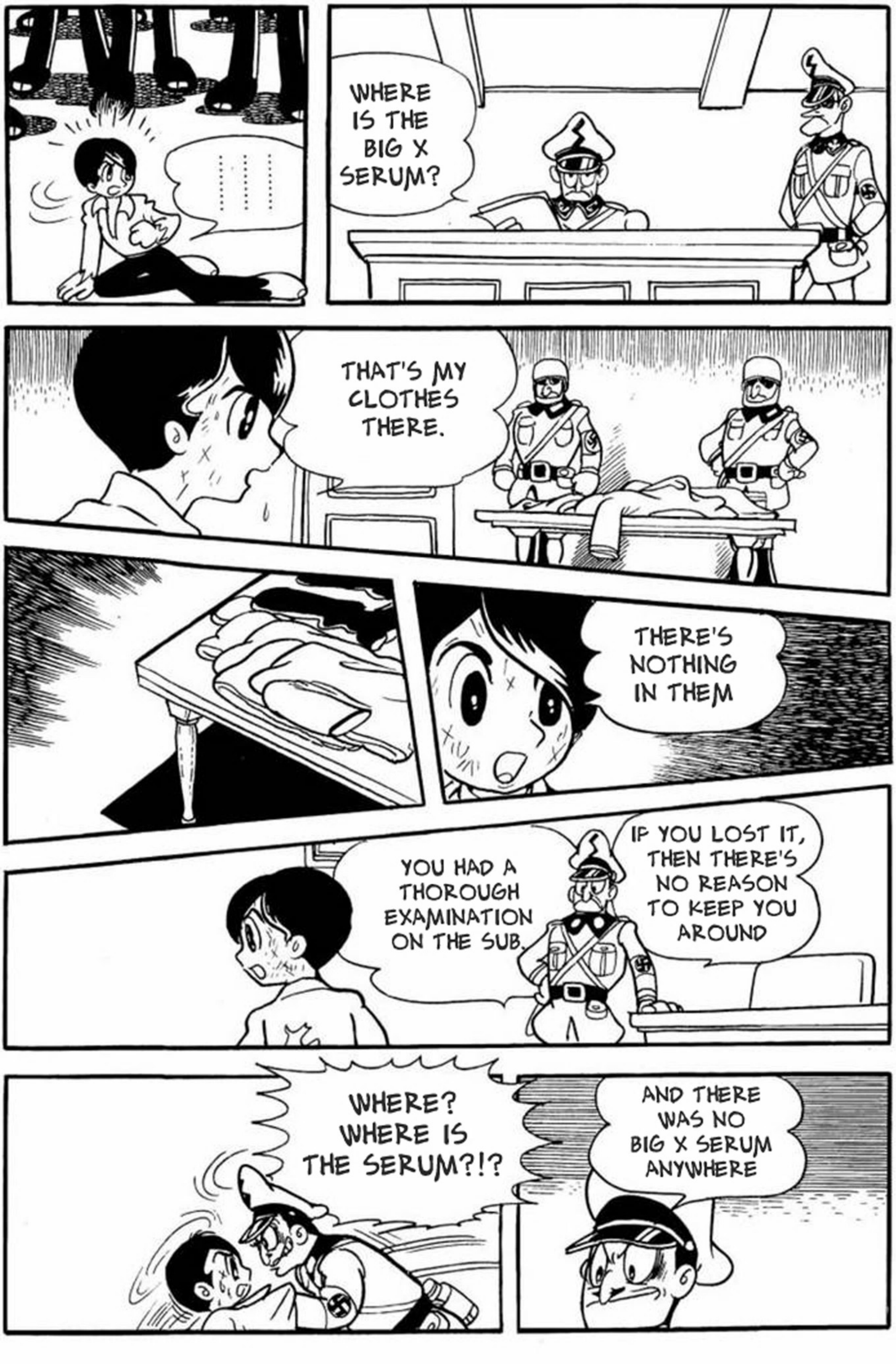

A BIG FISH
THAT'S SMALL
NOW. HA HA!

CHAPTER 4
PRISON AT THE END OF THE EARTH

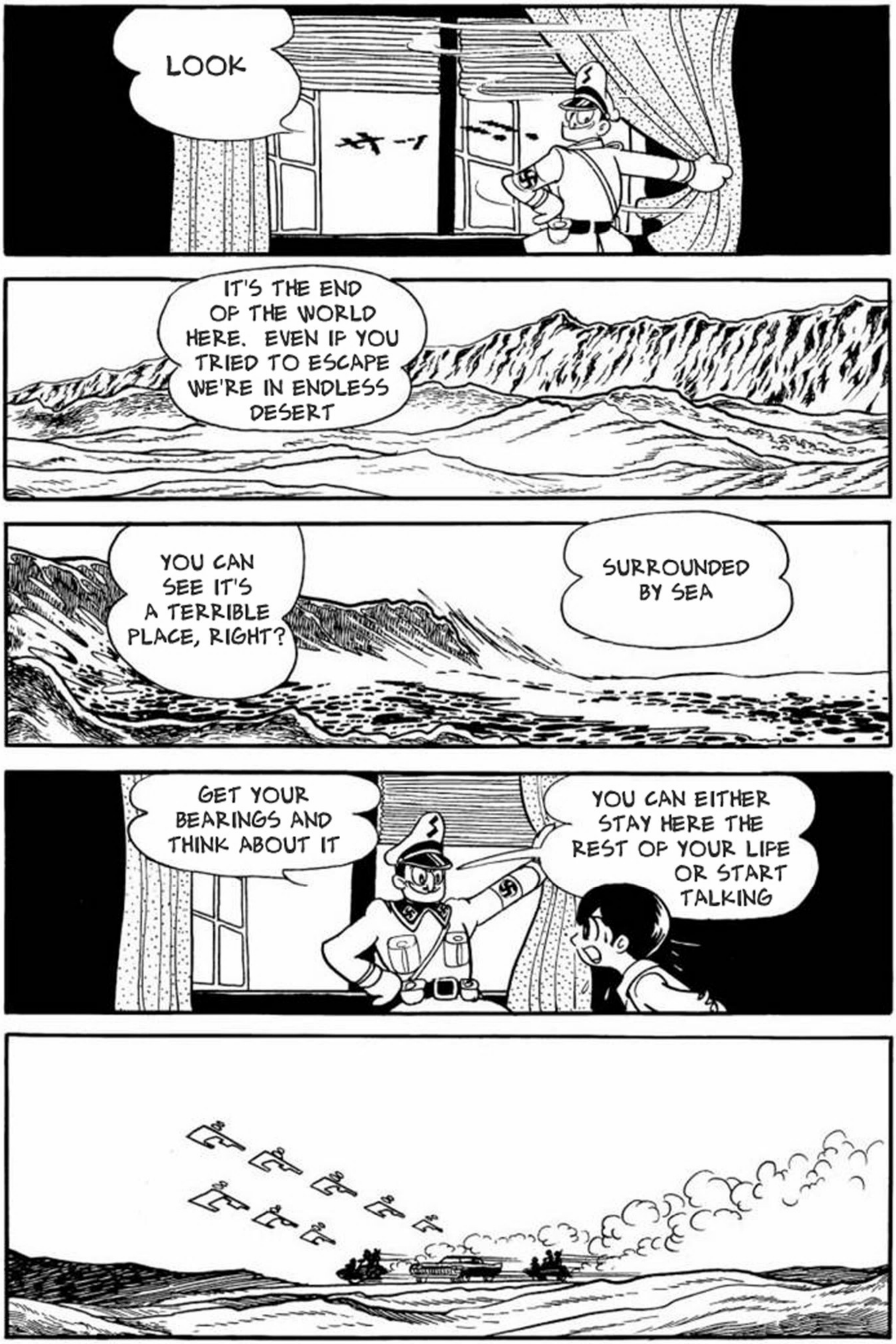


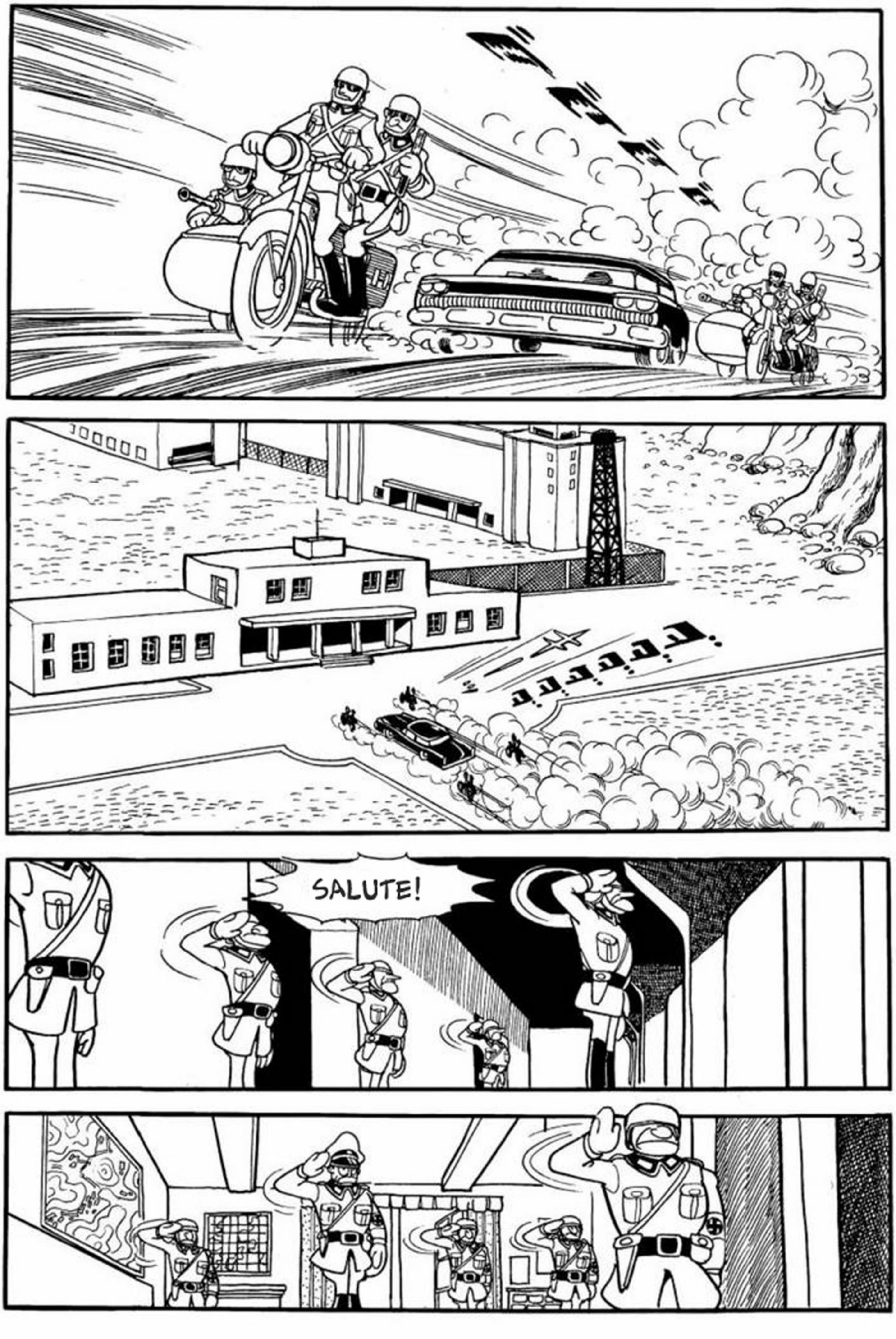



GET UP!

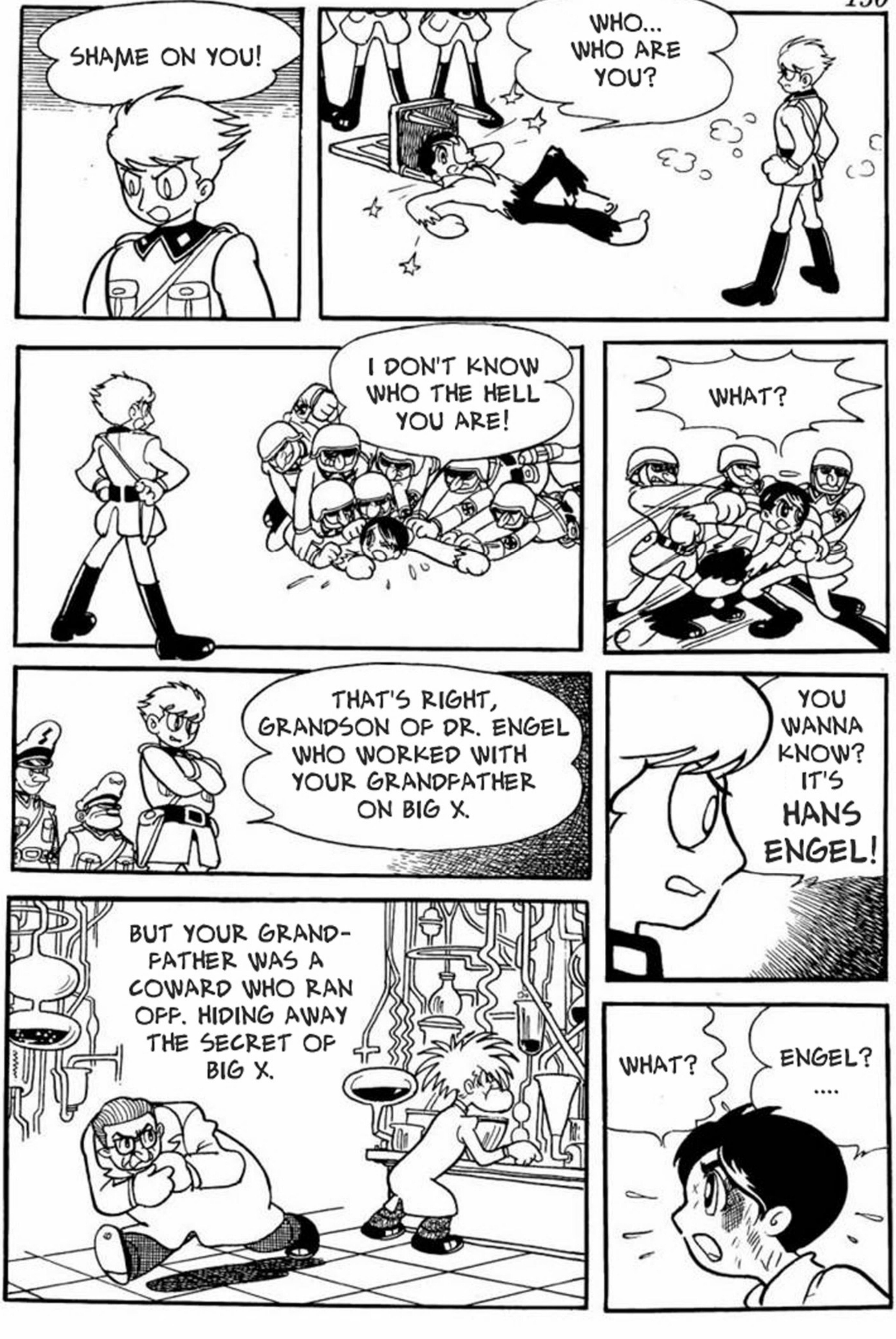


......
WHERE IS THE BIG X SERUM?
THAT'S MY CLOTHES THERE.
THERE'S NOTHING IN THEM
YOU HAD A THOROUGH EXAMINATION ON THE SUB.
IF YOU LOST IT, THEN THERE'S NO REASON TO KEEP YOU AROUND
WHERE? WHERE IS THE SERUM?!?
AND THERE WAS NO BIG X SERUM ANYWHERE

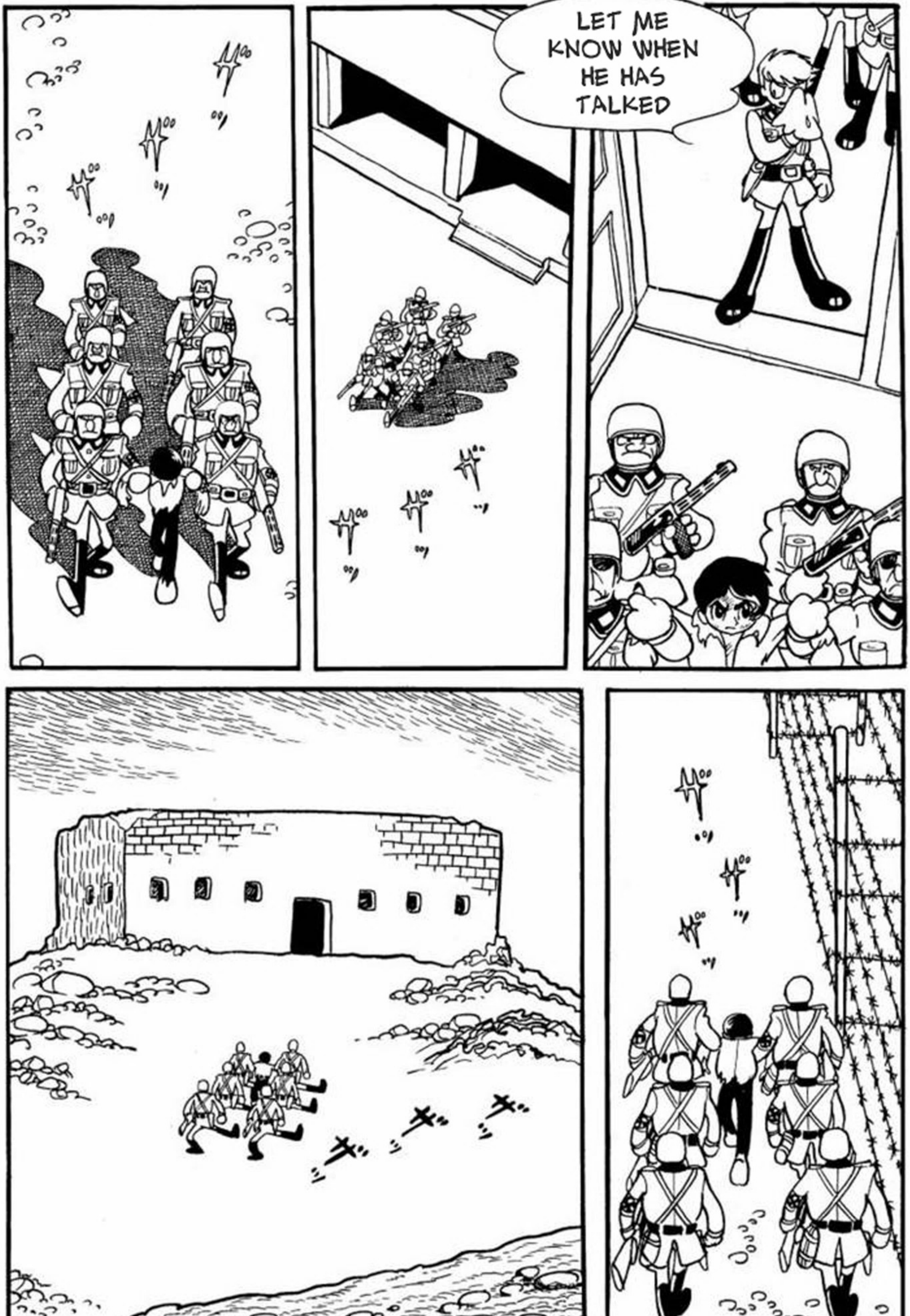

LOOK
IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD HERE. EVEN IF YOU TRIED TO ESCAPE WE'RE IN ENDLESS DESERT
YOU CAN SEE IT'S A TERRIBLE PLACE, RIGHT?
SURROUNDED BY SEA
YOU CAN EITHER STAY HERE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE OR START TALKING
GET YOUR BEARINGS AND THINK ABOUT IT

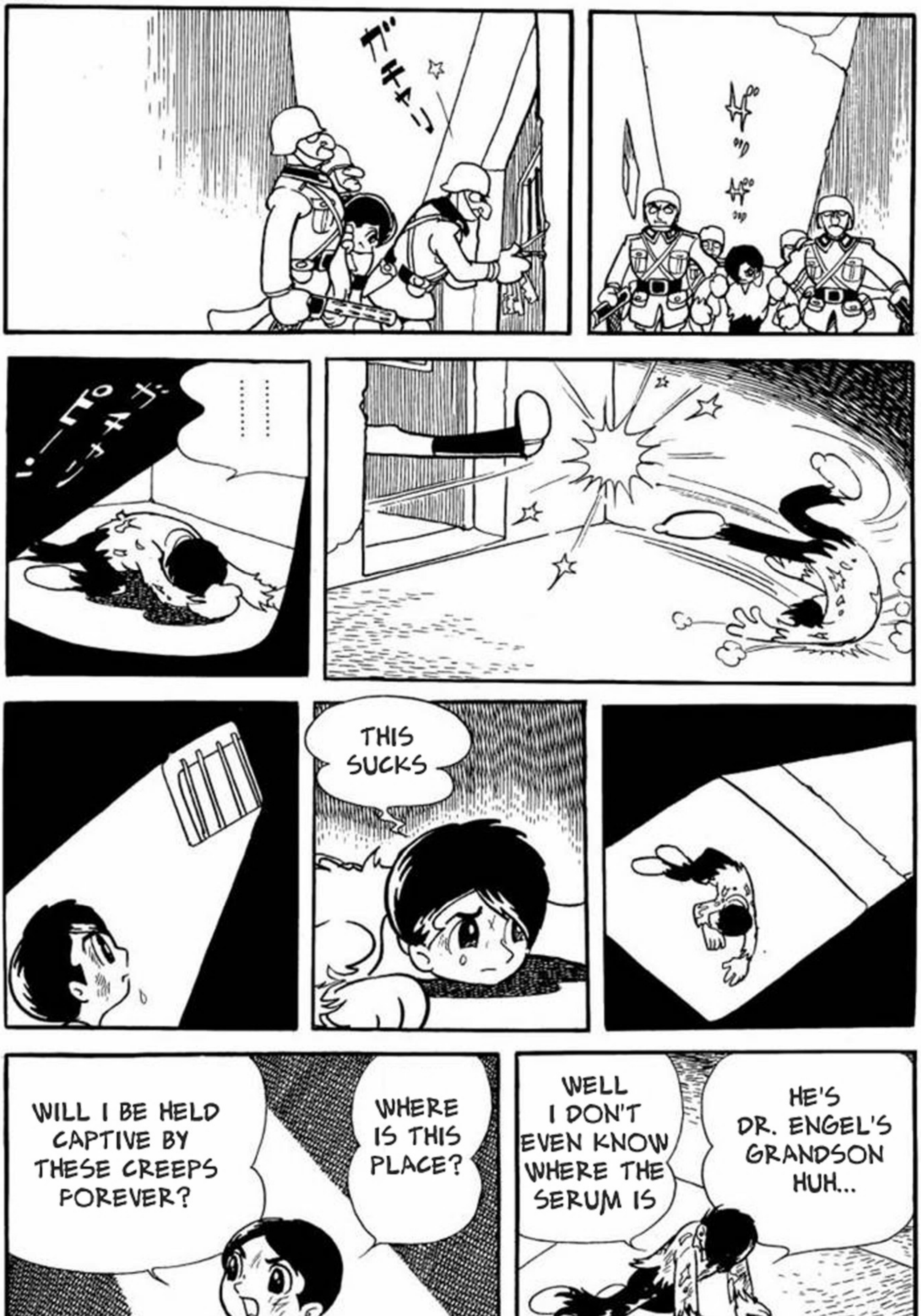

SALUTE!


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SHAME ON YOU!
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE!
WHAT?
THAT'S RIGHT, GRANDSON OF DR. ENGEL WHO WORKED WITH YOUR GRANDFATHER ON BIG X.
YOU WANNA KNOW? IT'S HANS ENGEL!
BUT YOUR GRAND-FATHER WAS A COWARD WHO RAN OFF. HIDING AWAY THE SECRET OF BIG X.
ENGEL? ....
WHAT?

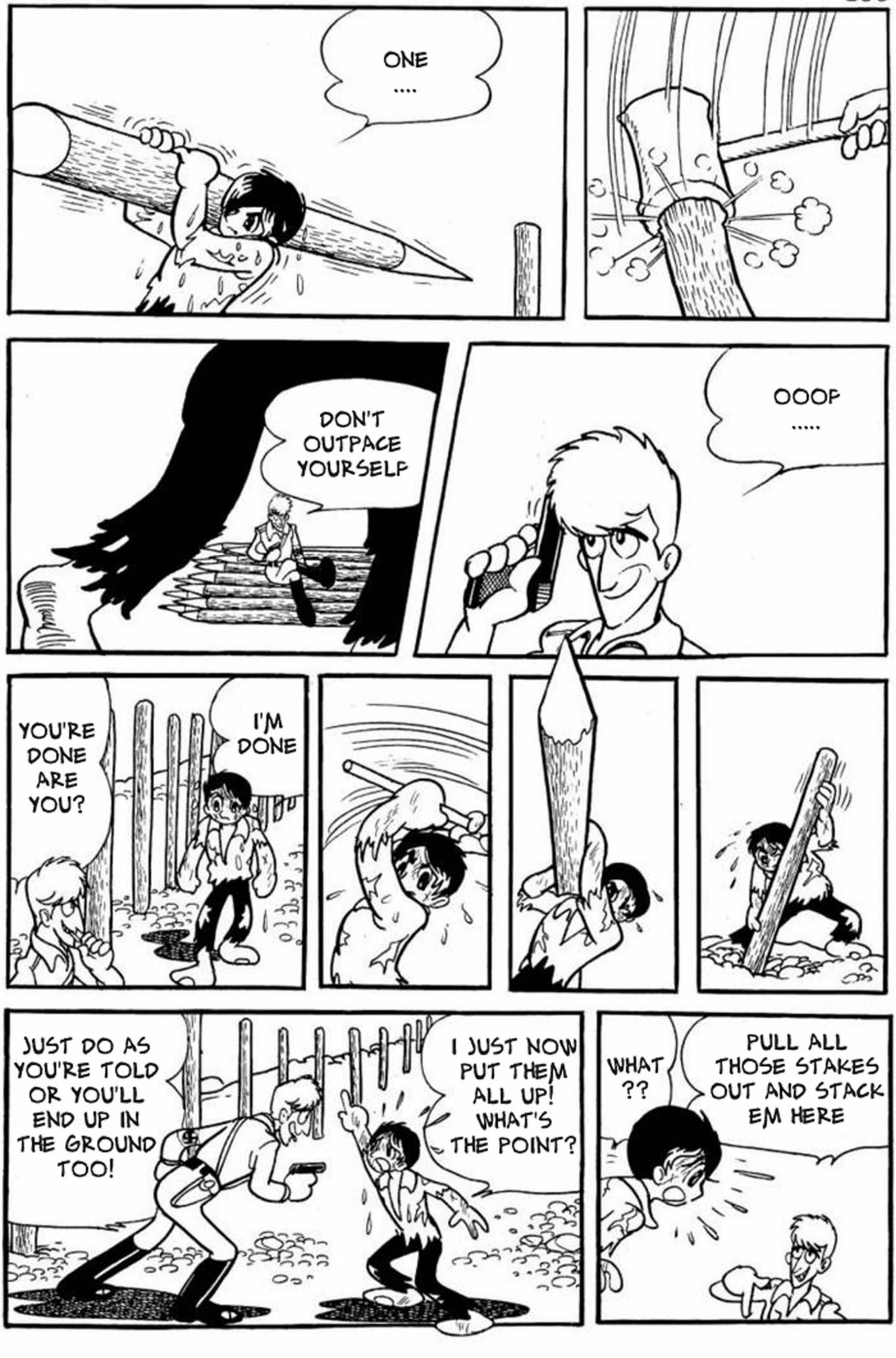

BECAUSE OF THAT MY GRAND-FATHER WAS SHOT DEAD
HE DIDN'T STEAL IT!
HE WAS HIDING IT TO PREVENT IT FROM BEING USED FOR EVIL
OH AND YOU ARE SO INNO-CENT
ANYWAY... FOR THE HONOR OF THE ENGEL FAMILY, I WILL TAKE BIG X BACK
WHERE IS BIG X?
HE HASN'T TOLD US YET
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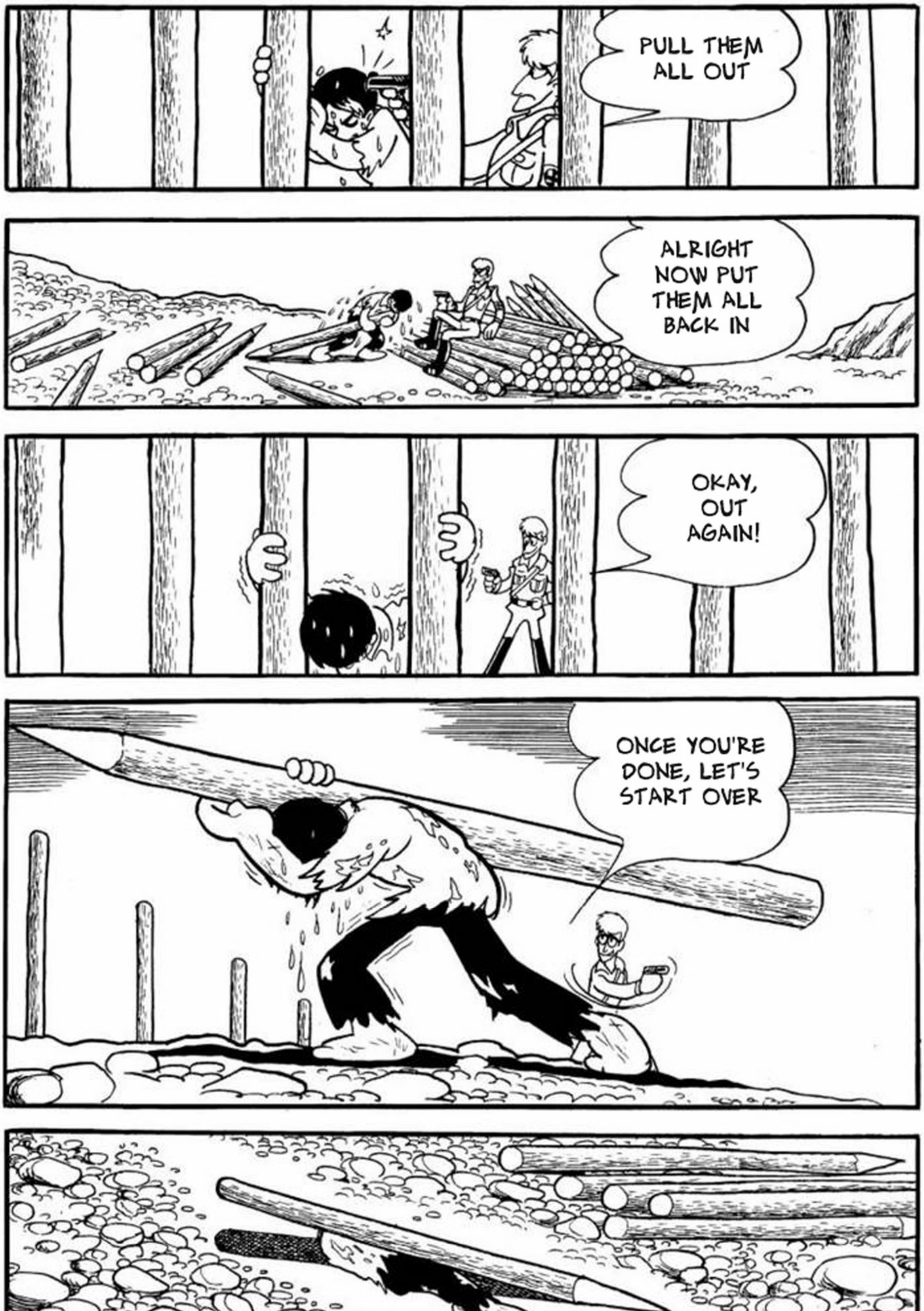

LET ME KNOW WHEN HE HAS TALKED


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……
……
THIS SUCKS
HE'S DR. ENGEL'S GRANDSON HUH...
WELL I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE SERUM IS
WHERE IS THIS PLACE?
WILL I BE HELD CAPTIVE BY THESE CREEPS FOREVER?

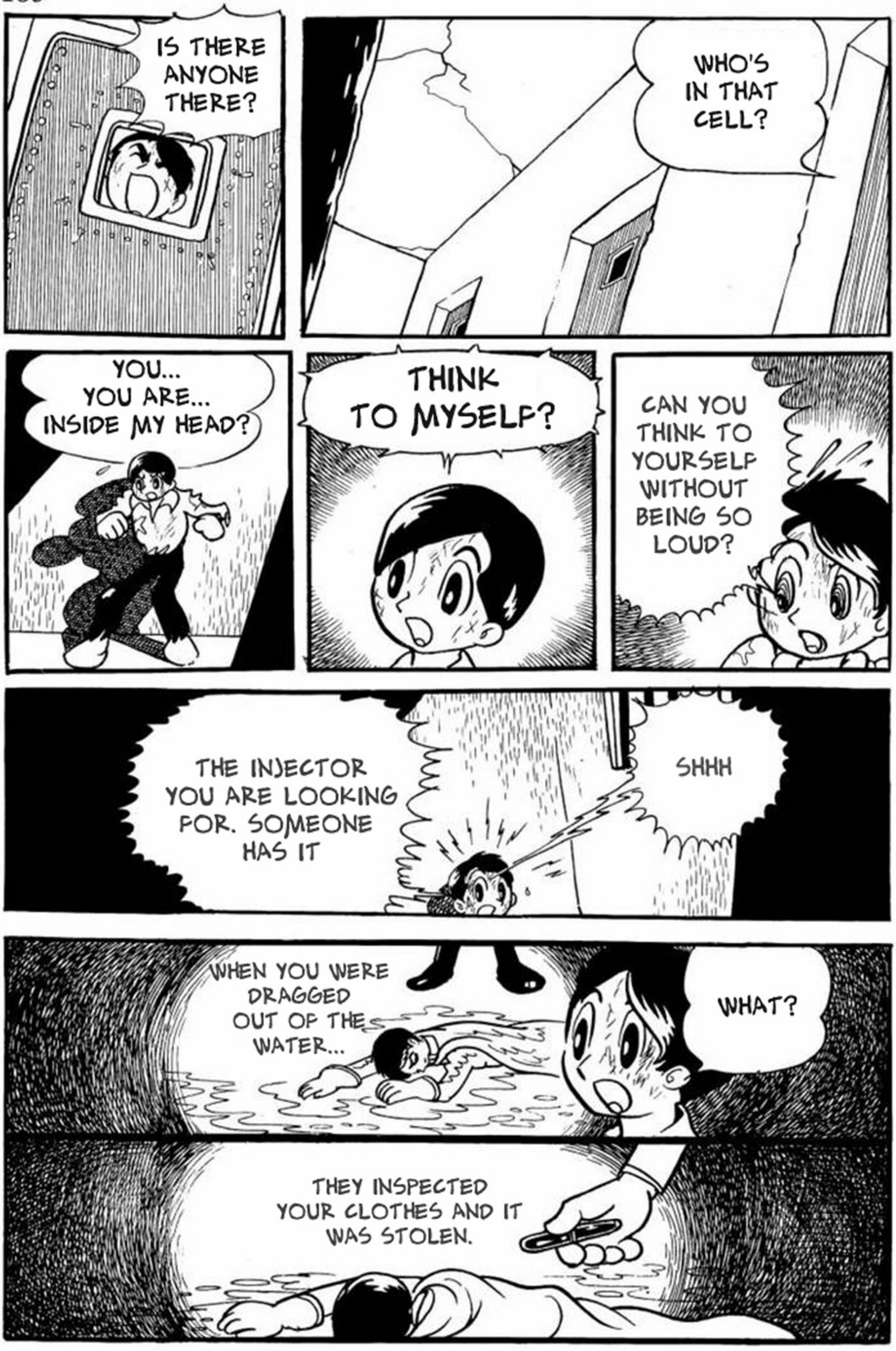

DAMN ....
YOU THINK YOU CAN BREAK ME?
I'LL FIGHT ANYTHING YOU CAN THROW AT ME
BUT WHY DOESN'T HE KNOW WHERE THE SERUM FOR BIG X IS?
DIDN'T THEY CATCH ON THAT THE PEN IS THE SERUM INJECTOR?
IT'S STRANGE THAT THEY MISSED IT.
MAYBE IT GOT LOST IN THE SEA?
IF SO, IT'S GONE FOREVER ....


GET OUT
YOU'VE GOT A TASK!
TAKE THESE TO THAT HILL AND BE DONE BY EVENING.
C'MON, SHOW ME HOW HEALTHY YOU ARE.
DUM DE DUM DE DUMMM

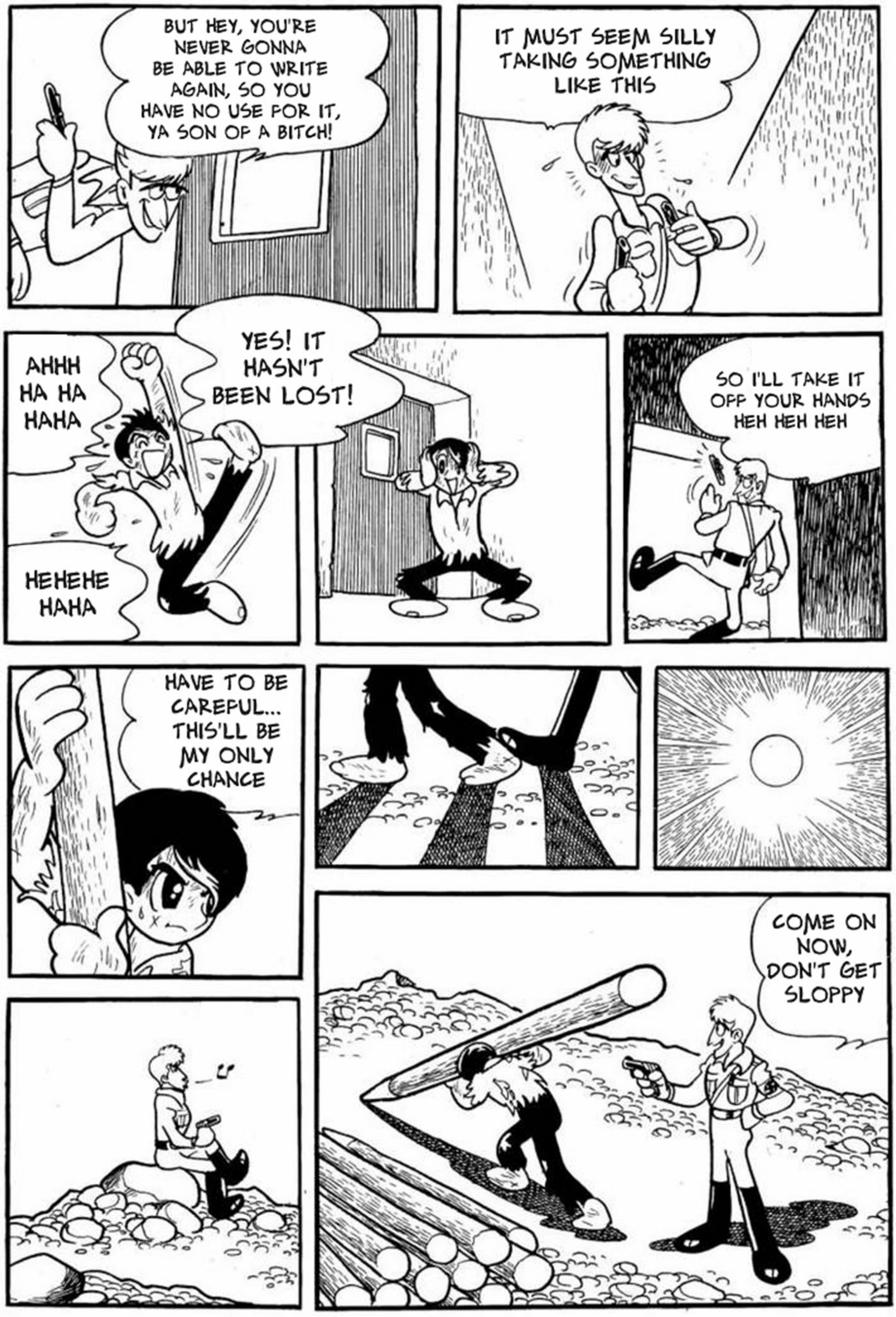

ONE
....
DON'T OUTPACE YOURSELF
OOOF
.....
YOU'RE DONE ARE YOU?
I'M DONE
JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD OR YOU'LL END UP IN THE GROUND TOO!
I JUST NOW PUT THEM ALL UP! WHAT'S THE POINT?
PULL ALL THOSE STAKES OUT AND STACK EM HERE
WHAT ??

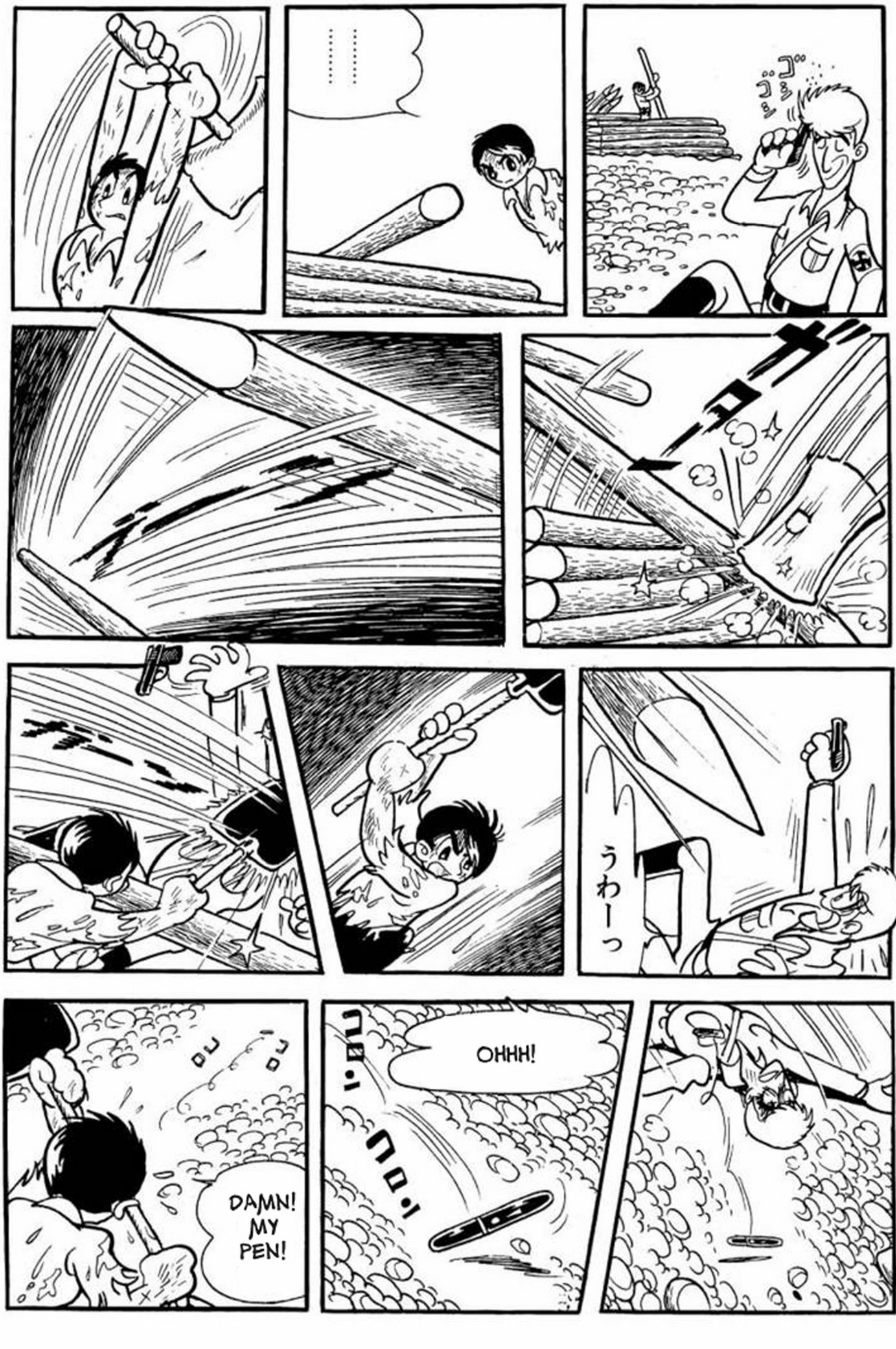

PULL THEM ALL OUT
ALRIGHT NOW PUT THEM ALL BACK IN
OKAY, OUT AGAIN!
ONCE YOU'RE DONE, LET'S START OVER


YOU'LL BE DOING THIS TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY AND THE NEXT UNTIL YOU DIE..SO ENJOY!
NICE ISN'T IT?
WAKE UP AND DRINK SOME MUDDY WATER!
WHO... WHO SAID THAT?
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT...
IF I DO THIS EVERY DAY, I WILL LOSE MY MIND...
I'M TALKING TO YOU FROM ANOTHER ROOM
IS SOME-ONE IN MY CELL?
IT'S NOT A DREAM
AM I DREAM-ING?
THERE'S ANOTHER CELL 10 METERS AWAY
10 METERS?
I'M 10 METERS FROM YOUR ROOM
WHAT IS THIS ?


IS THERE ANYONE THERE?
WHO'S IN THAT CELL?
YOU... YOU ARE... INSIDE MY HEAD?
THINK TO MYSELF?
CAN YOU THINK TO YOURSELF WITHOUT BEING SO LOUD?
SHHH
THE INJECTOR YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. SOMEONE HAS IT
WHAT?
WHEN YOU WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THE WATER...
THEY INSPECTED YOUR CLOTHES AND IT WAS STOLEN.

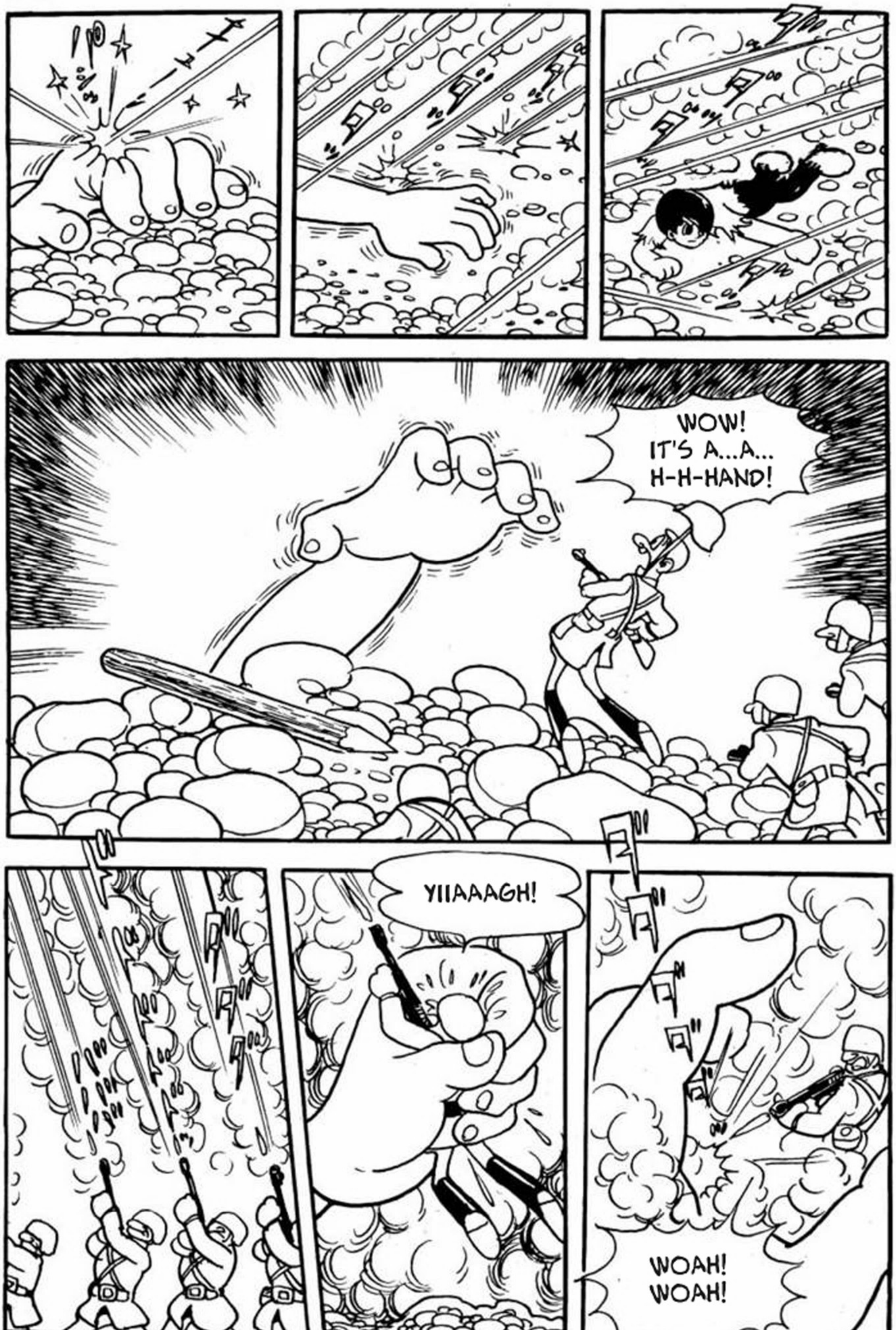

HE DOESN'T REALIZE THE SECRET IT HOLDS
OF COURSE HE THINKS IT'S JUST A PEN
YOU!
RIGHT? COME ON, SAY SOMETHING!
THERE'S NO WAY HE'D KNOW!
YOU'RE RANTING AND RAVING... HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?
WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS?
THAT'S MY PEN!
AH! THAT'S IT!

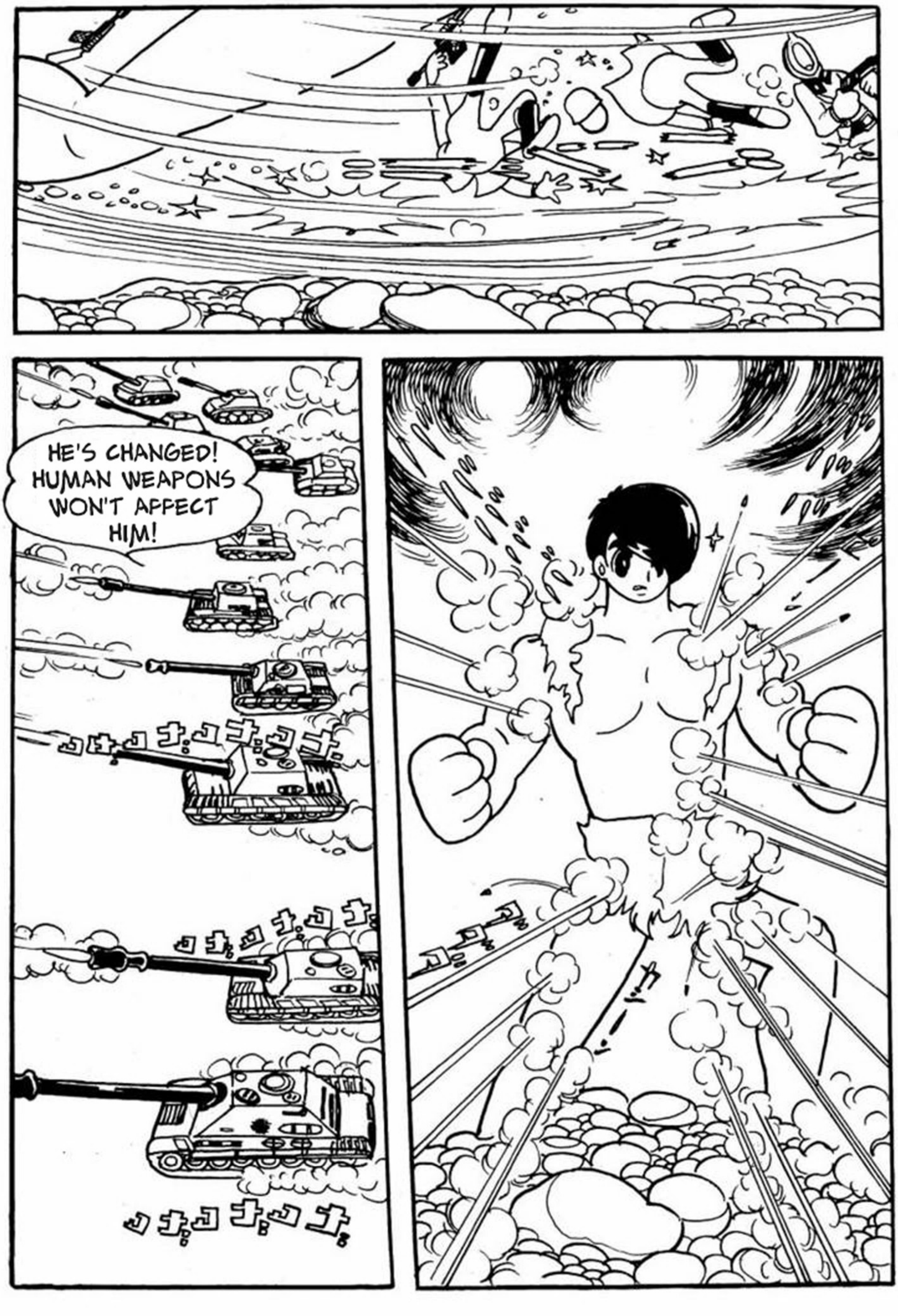

IT MUST SEEM SILLY TAKING SOMETHING LIKE THIS
BUT HEY, YOU'RE NEVER GONNA BE ABLE TO WRITE AGAIN, SO YOU HAVE NO USE FOR IT, YA SON OF A BITCH!
SO I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS HEH HEH HEH
YES! IT HASN'T BEEN LOST!
AHHH HA HA HAHA
HEHEHE HAHA
HAVE TO BE CAREFUL... THIS'LL BE MY ONLY CHANCE
COME ON NOW, DON'T GET SLOPPY

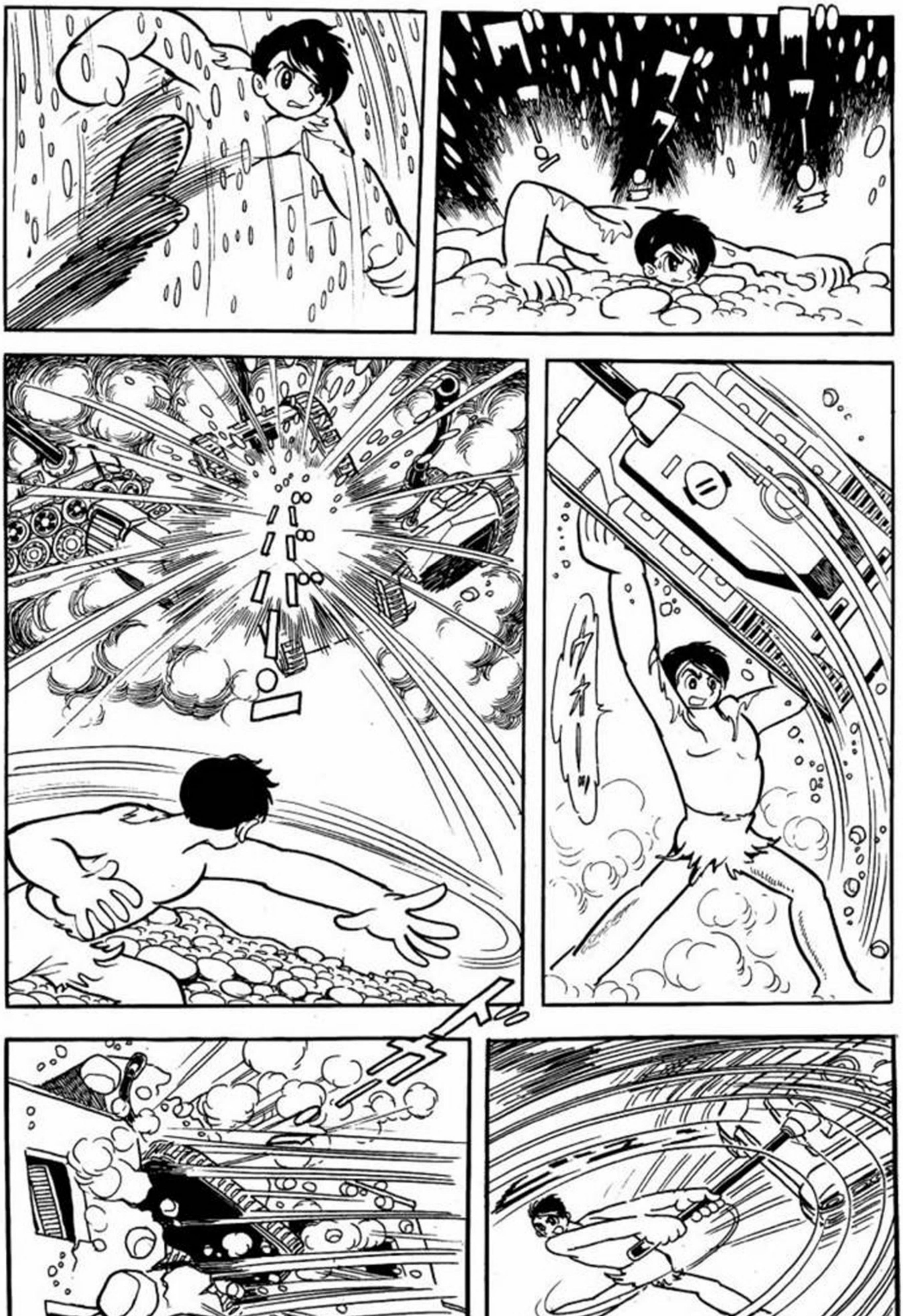

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OHHH!
DAMN! MY PEN!

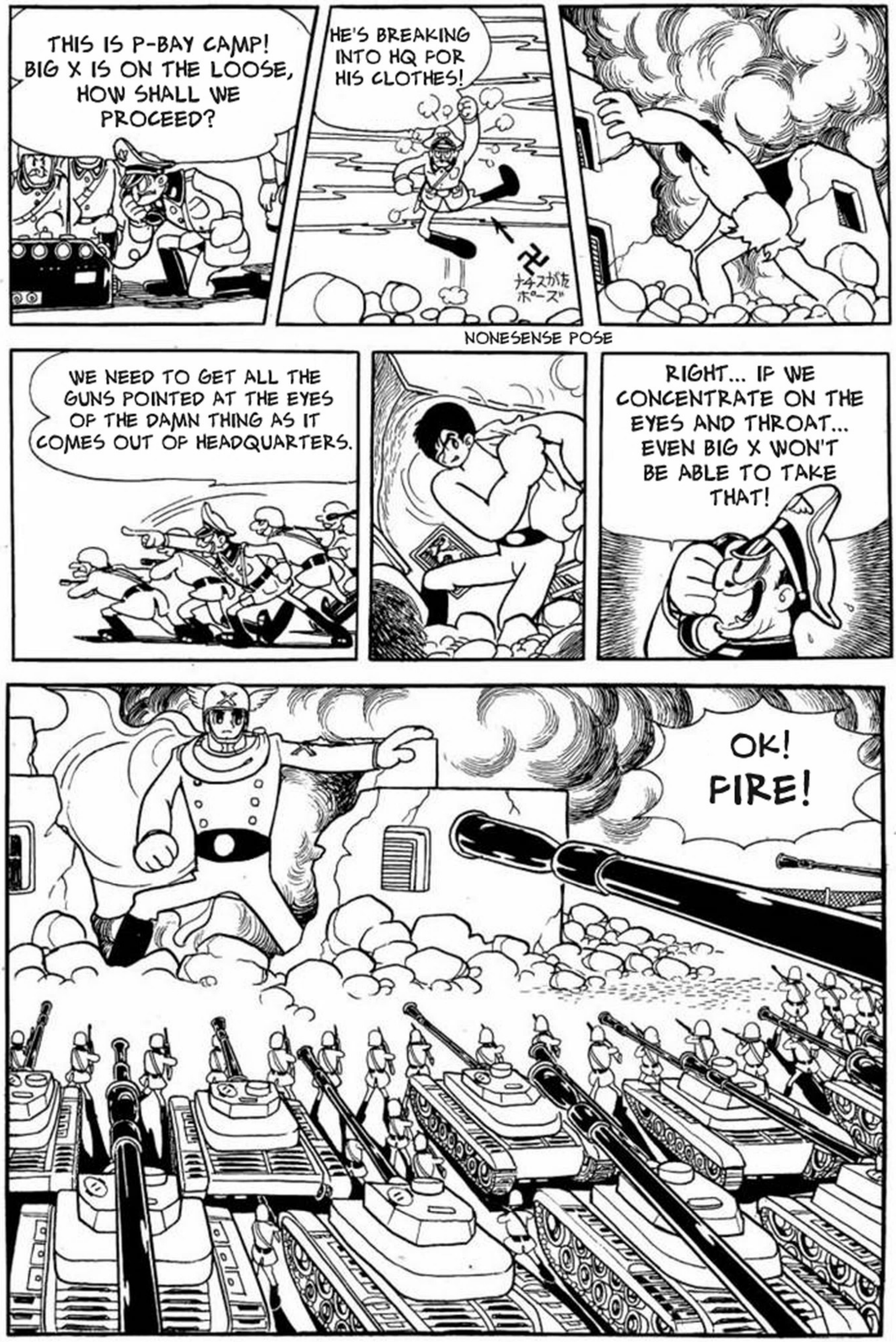

SEEMS THE SENTRY SAW WHAT'S HAPPENING
WELL... COME AND GET SOME!
THERE'S NO USE IN STIRRING UP TROUBLE. THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO RUN!

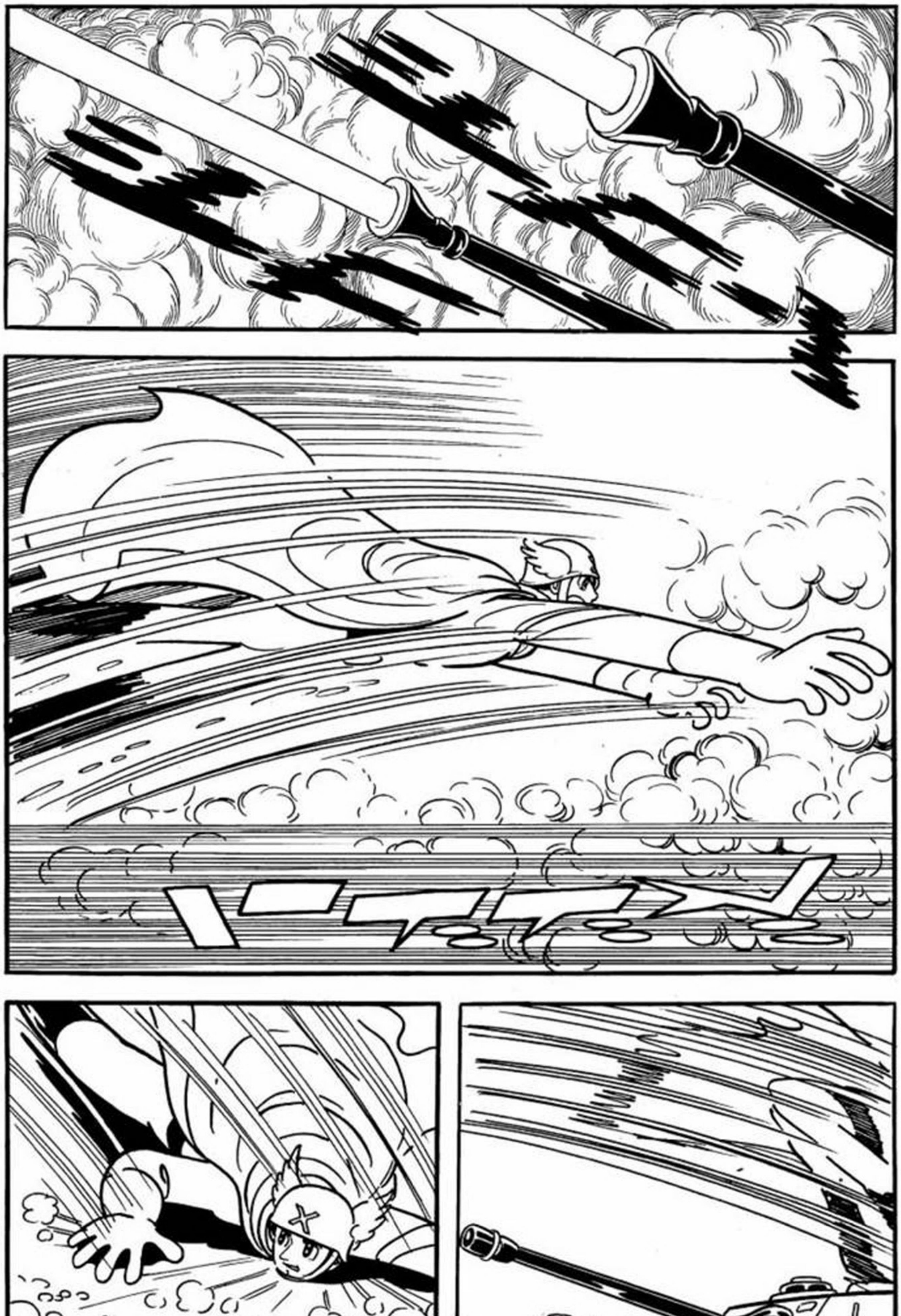

RAISE YOUR HANDS AND COME OVER HERE
PUT DOWN THE SHOVEL!

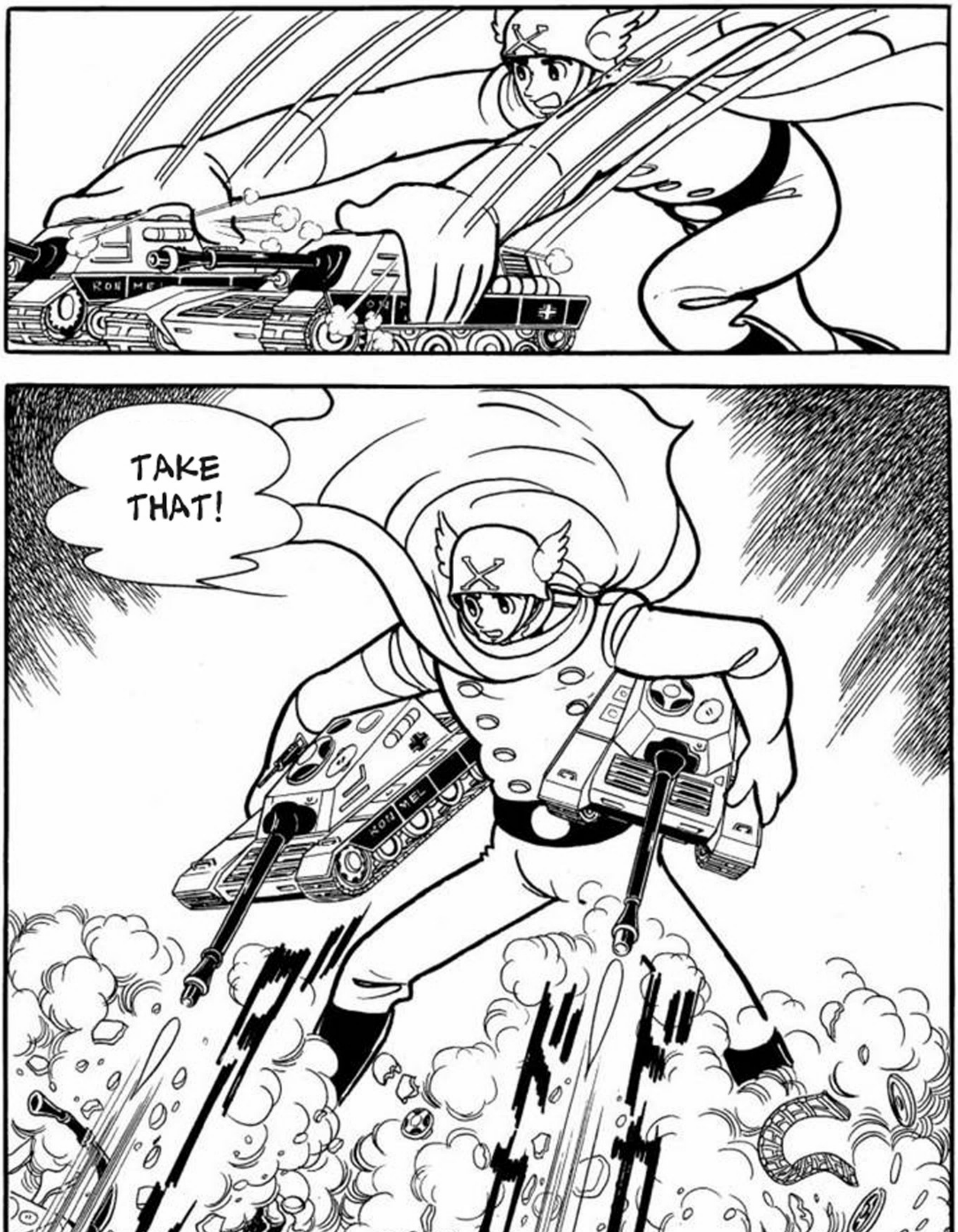

WOW!
IT'S A...A...
H-H-HAND!
YIIAAAGH!
WOAH!
WOAH!

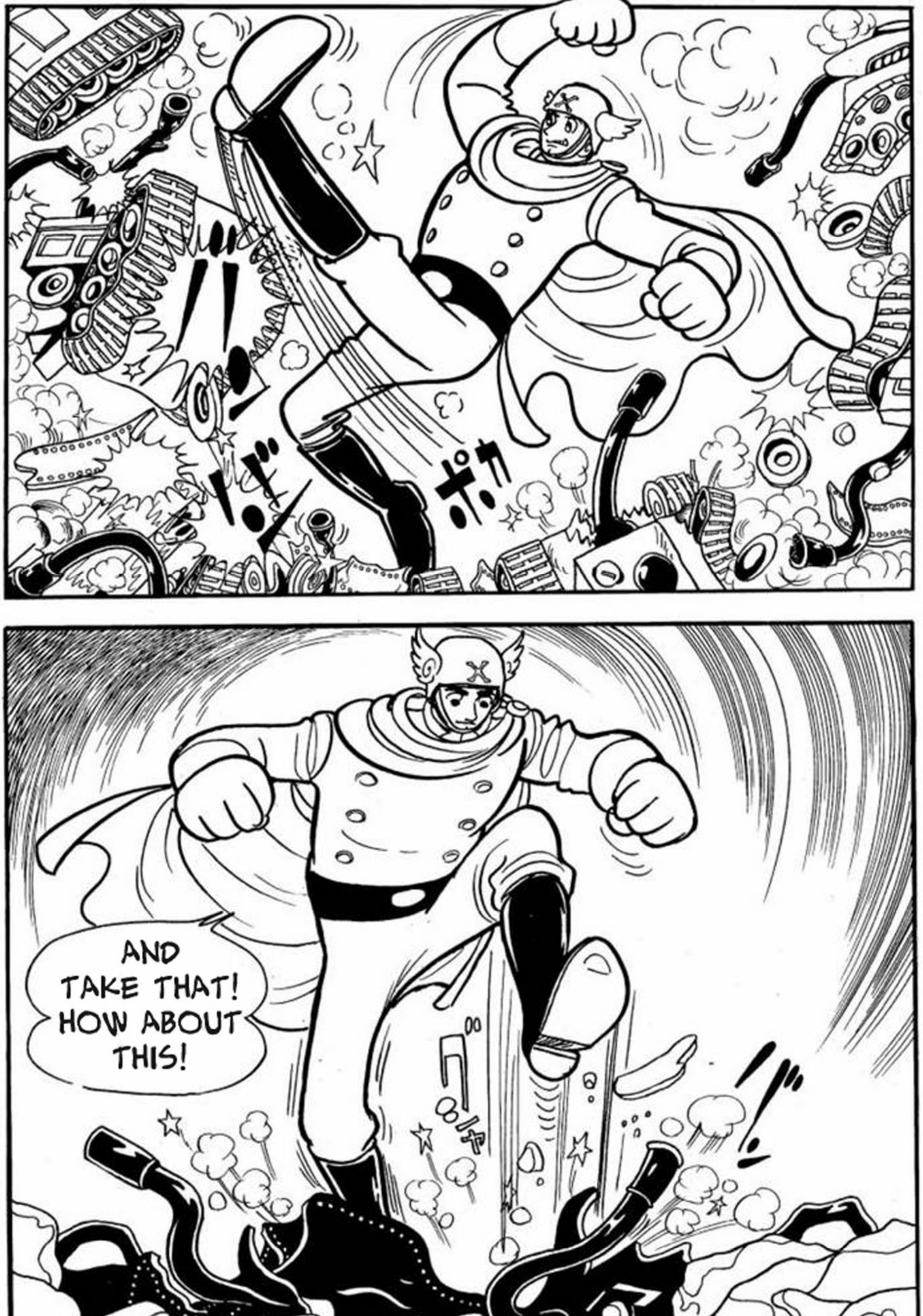

HE'S CHANGED! HUMAN WEAPONS WON'T AFFECT HIM!


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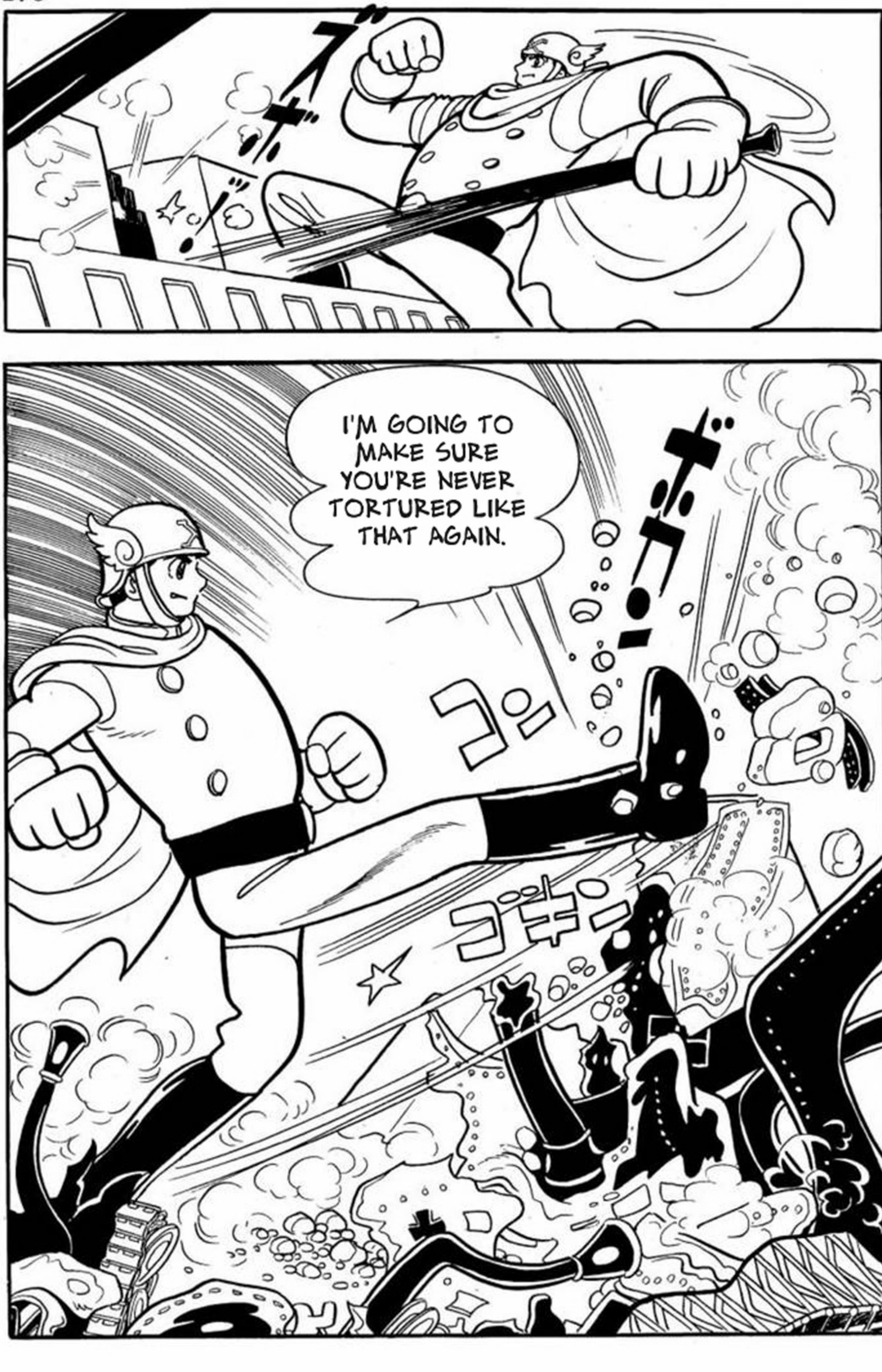

THIS IS P-BAY CAMP! BIG X IS ON THE LOOSE, HOW SHALL WE PROCEED?
HE'S BREAKING INTO HQ FOR HIS CLOTHES!
NONESENSE POSE
WE NEED TO GET ALL THE GUNS POINTED AT THE EYES OF THE DAMN THING AS IT COMES OUT OF HEADQUARTERS.
RIGHT... IF WE CONCENTRATE ON THE EYES AND THROAT... EVEN BIG X WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE THAT!
OK! FIRE!




TAKE THAT!

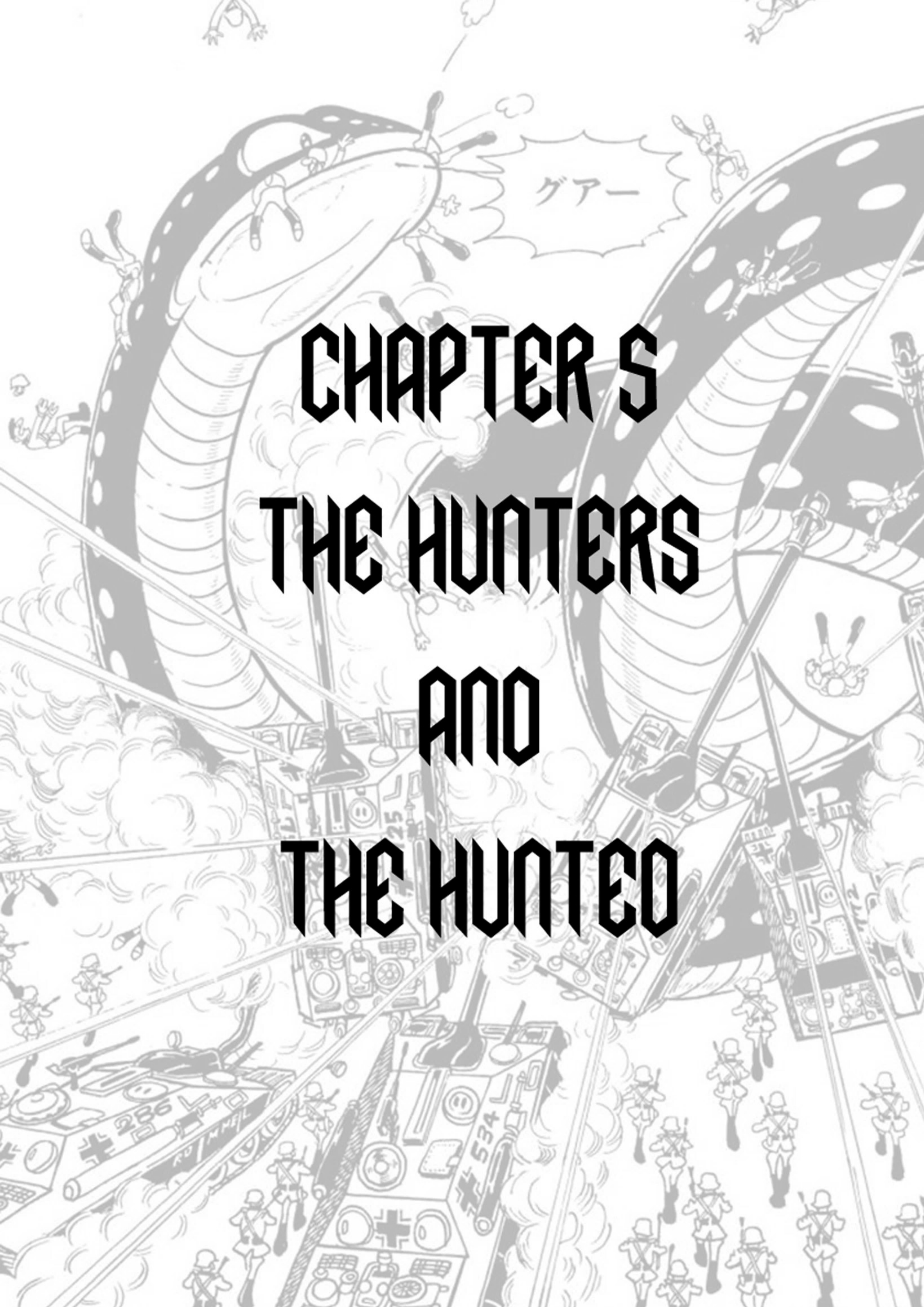

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AND TAKE THAT! HOW ABOUT THIS!

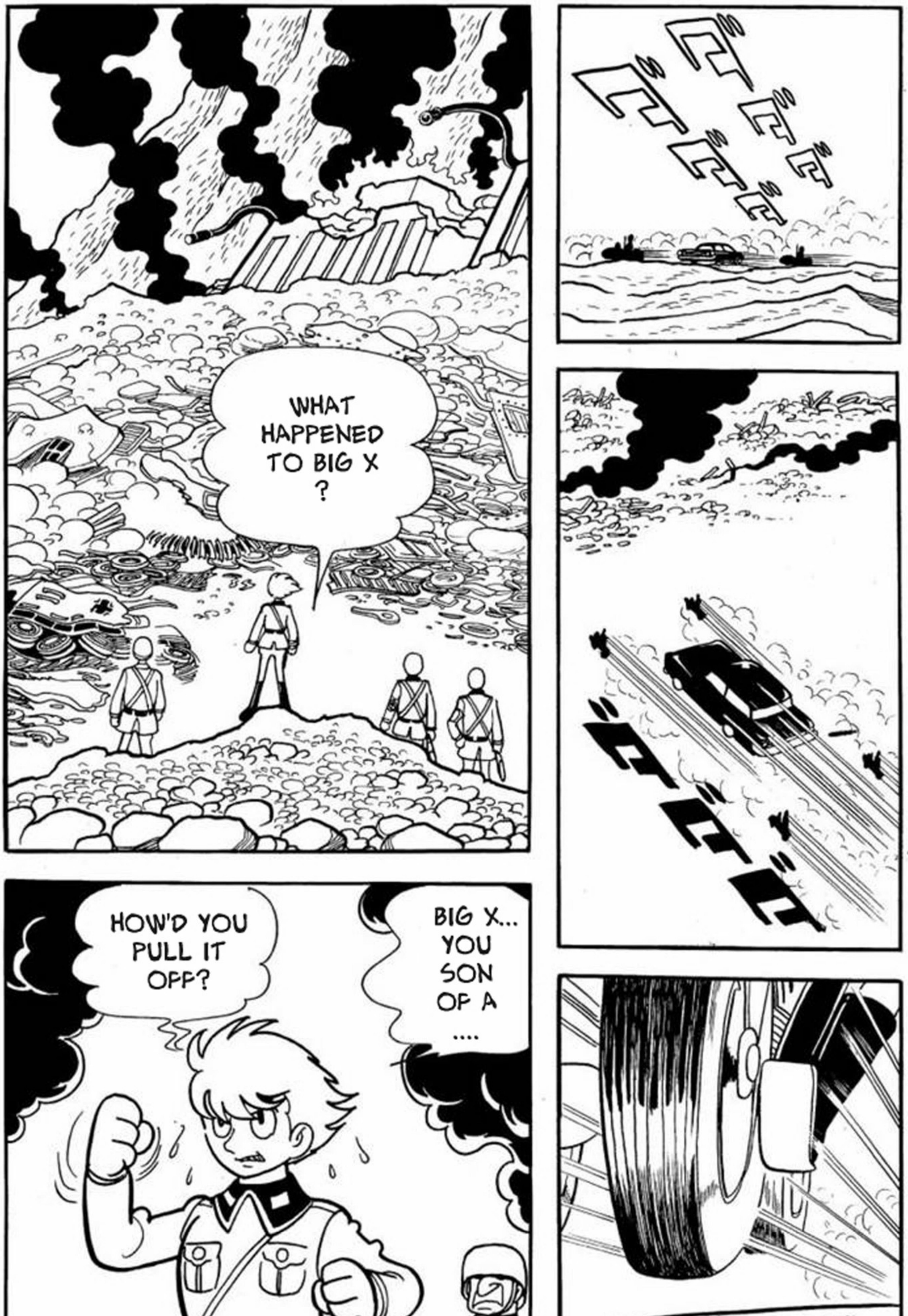

WHO?
EEEEK!
A MONSTER!
POOR KID, SHE PASSED OUT...

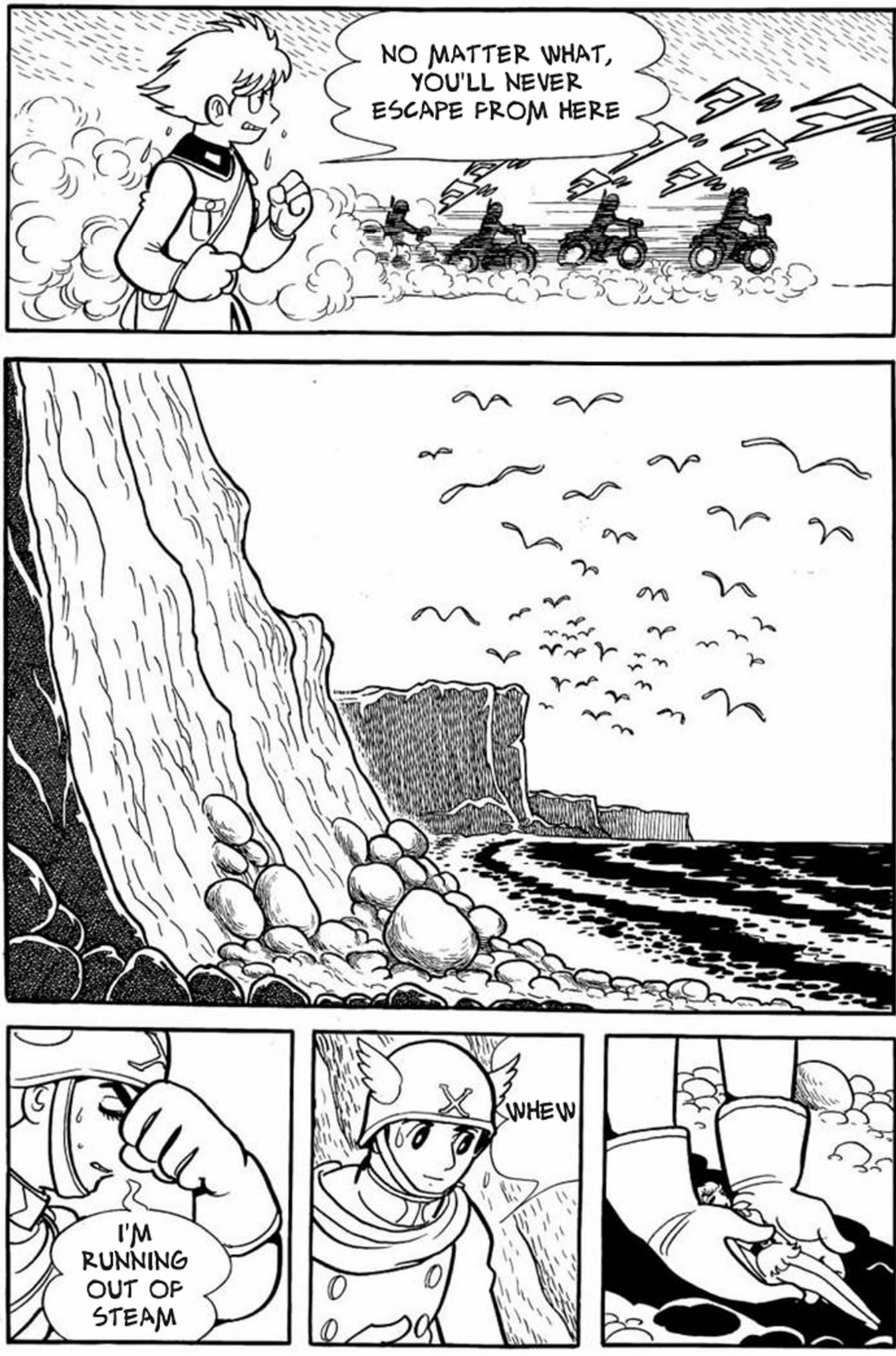

I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE NEVER TORTURED LIKE THAT AGAIN.
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ゴキン

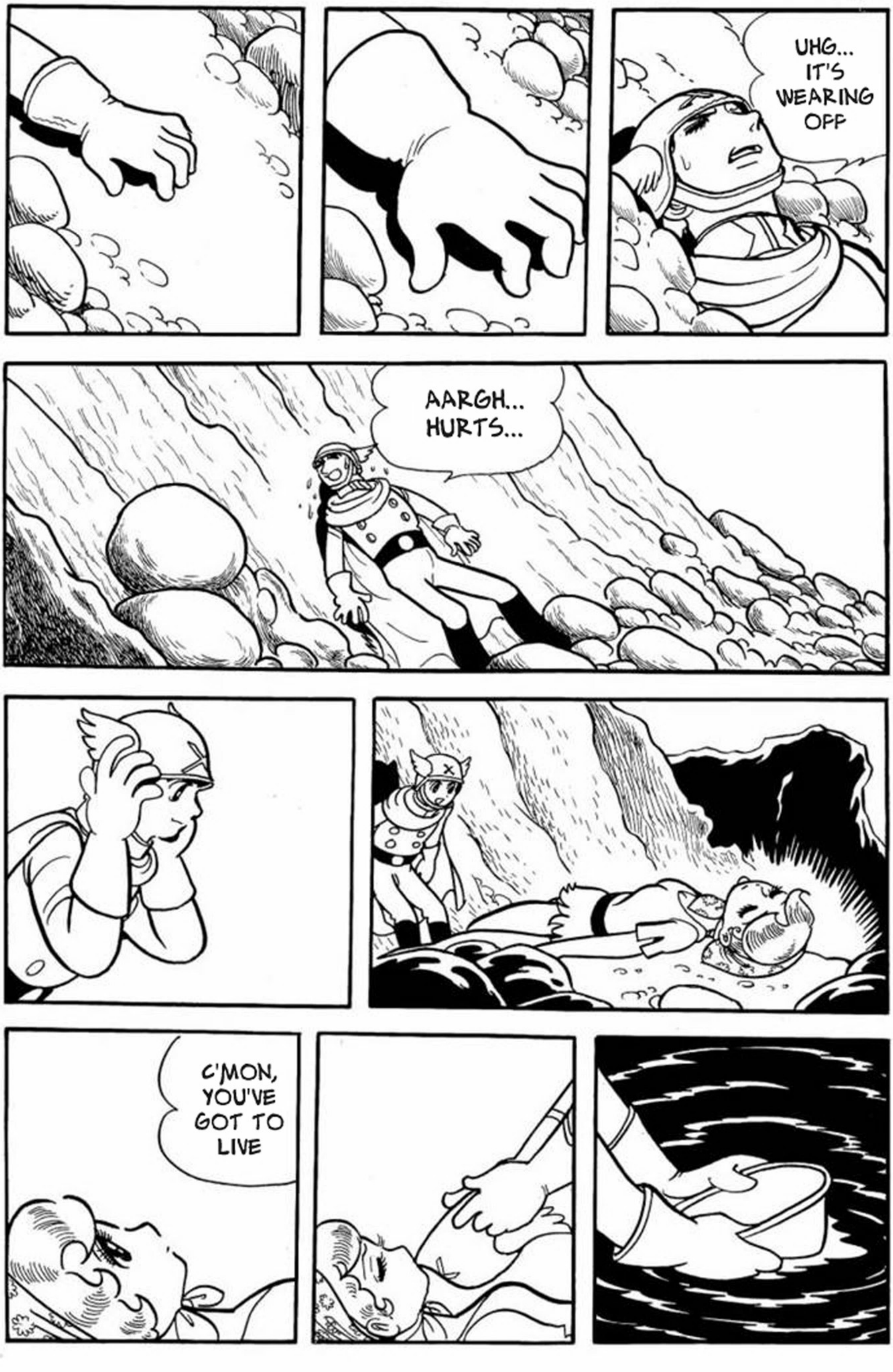

THIS IS IT!
BYE!

CHAPTER 5
THE HUNTERS
AND
THE HUNTED




WHAT HAPPENED TO BIG X ?
BIG X... YOU SON OF A ....
HOW'D YOU PULL IT OFF?


NO MATTER WHAT, YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM HERE
I'M RUNNING OUT OF STEAM
WHEW

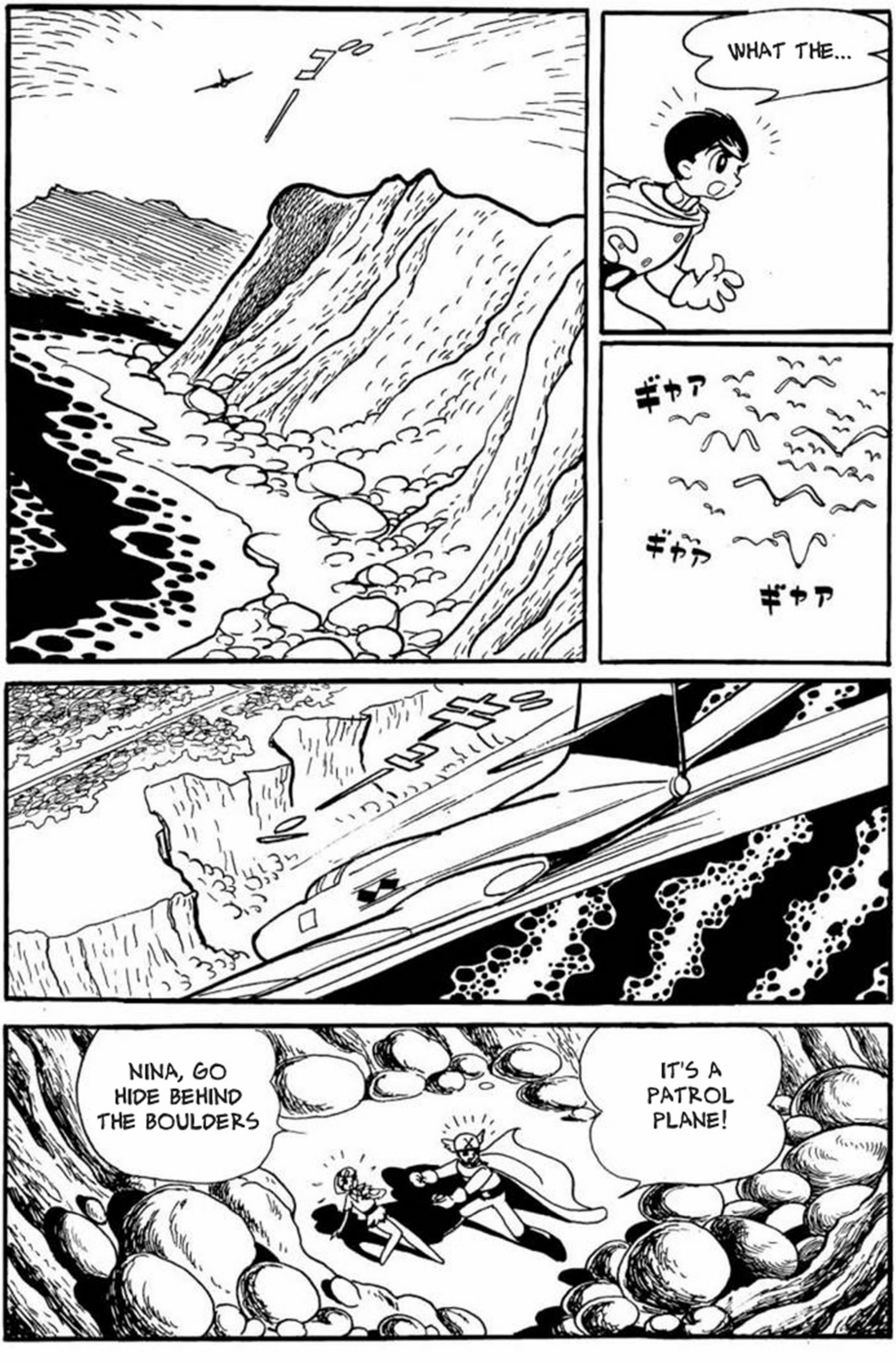

UHG... IT'S WEARING OFF
AARGH... HURTS...
C'MON, YOU'VE GOT TO LIVE

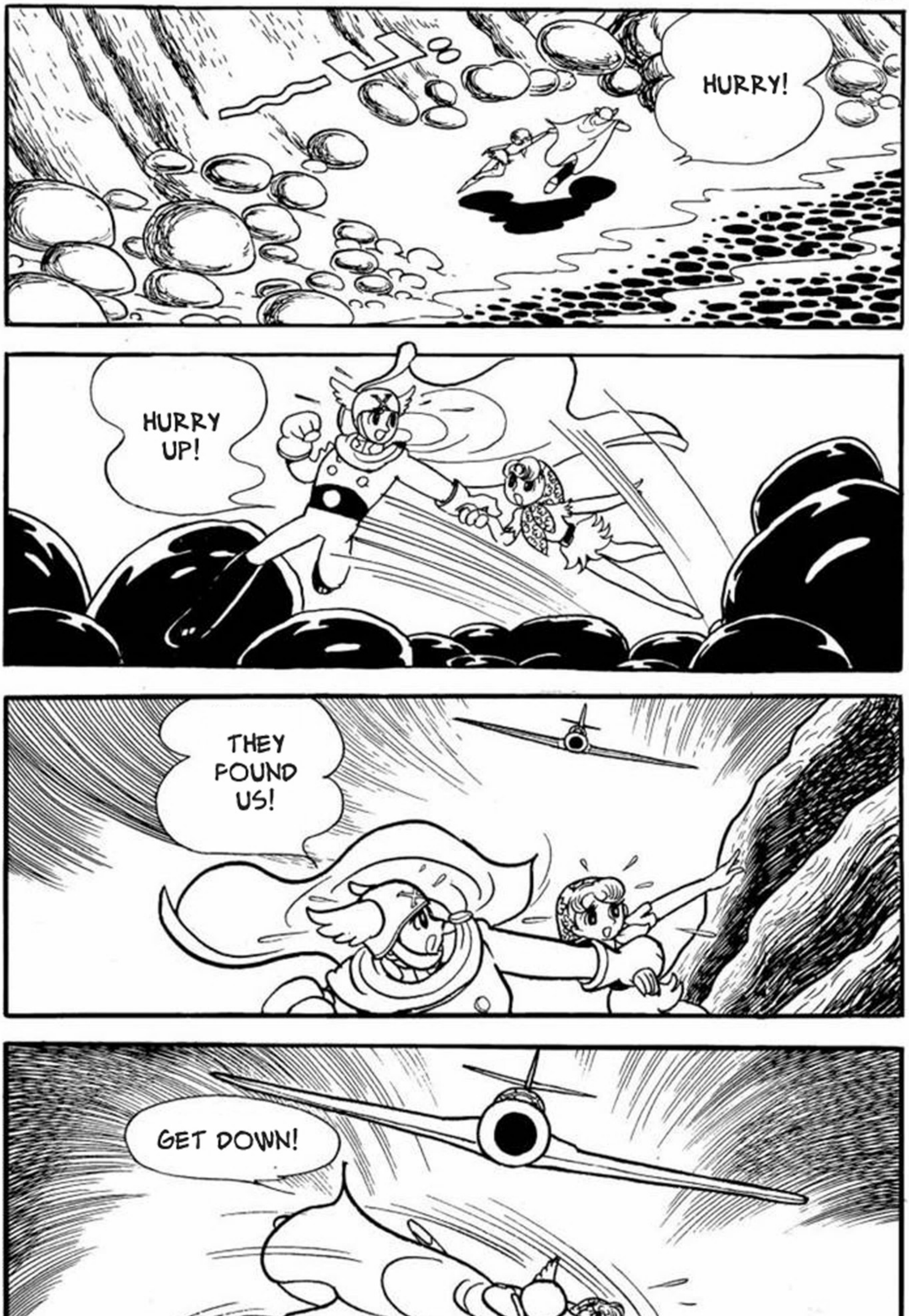

THAT WAS BIG X... THE SERUM FROM THE PEN.
DON'T BE SCARED ....
AH!
YOU TOLD ME WHERE MY PEN WAS AND I WAS ABLE TO SAVE YOU
IT WAS ME... YOU TALKED TO MY MIND WHEN WE WERE IN THE PRISON
SEE? THE NEEDLE POPS OUT AND BECOMES A SYRINGE.
THIS PEN CONTAINS THE BIG X SERUM
I GUESS I'M JUST PARANOID
I'M SORRY ...
DO YOU TRUST ME NOW?
......

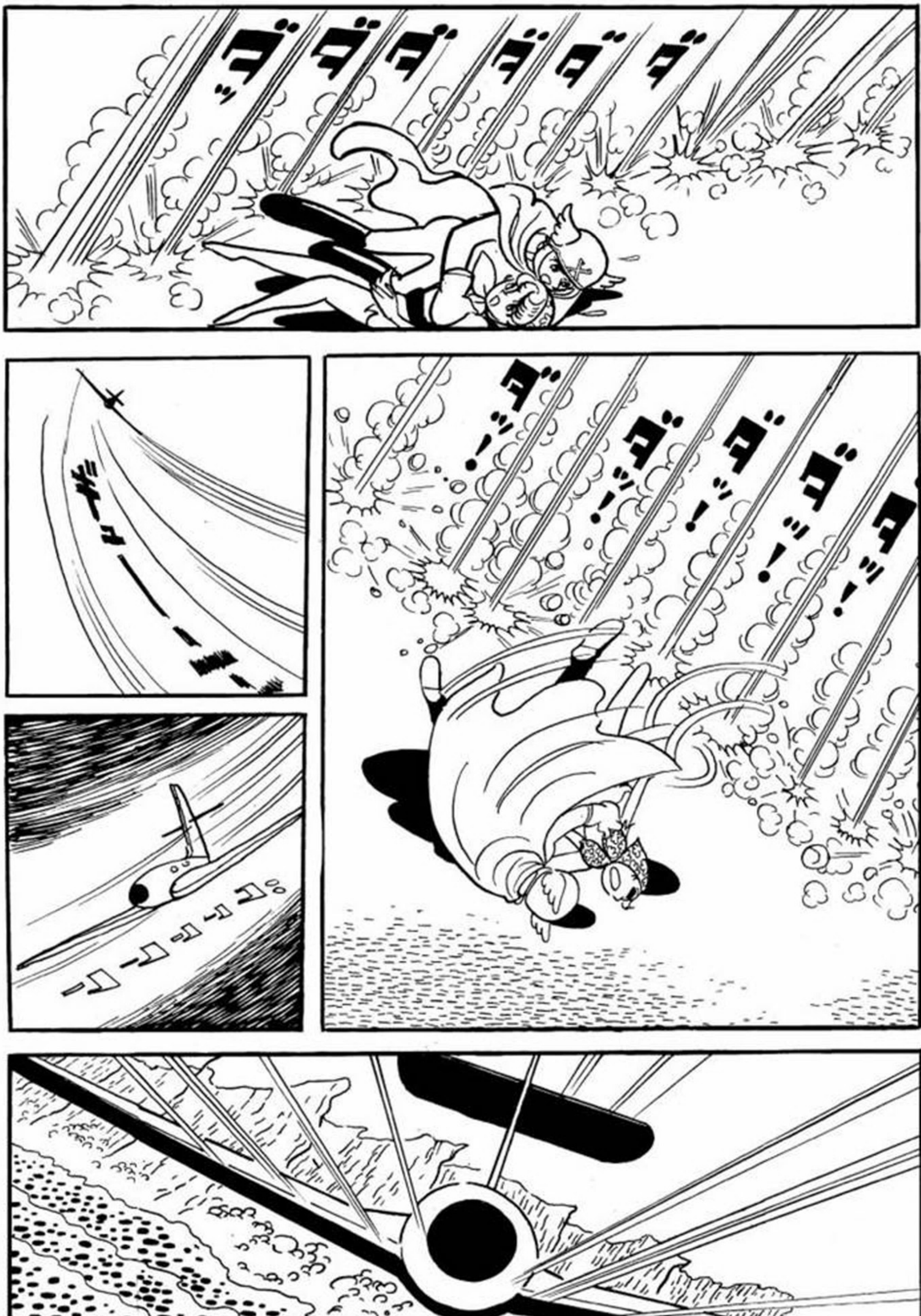

MY NAME IS AKIRA ASAGUMO
I'M NINA... NINA BURTON
I'M FROM CARTHAGE
NINA, YOU REALLY SCARED ME IN THE CELL. HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?
YOU SPOKE TO ME INSIDE MY HEAD FROM 10 METERS AWAY. HOW DID YOU DO THAT?
IT'S TELE-KINESIS
!
I WAS SCARED, BEING LOCKED UP IN THAT CELL
I WAS IN THAT PRISON FOR 10 YEARS
MY PARENTS WERE WITH ME. THEY DIED IN THERE.
10 YEARS ?
YOU MUST'VE BEEN THREE OR FOUR YEARS OLD?


I WAS SO LONELY, I WANTED TO TALK TO SOMEONE. SO I STARTED TALKING TO A CROW.
YEAH... I'VE BEEN ALONE SINCE THEN.
HUH? A CROW?
YES, THEY DON'T SPEAK OUR LANGUAGE
SO I TRIED TO TALK WITH MY MIND.
I THOUGHT IF I COULD TALK TO THE SOUL OF THE CROW, IT WOULD UNDERSTAND
ONE MORNING I GOT THROUGH TO ONE. IT LANDED ON MY WINDOW. I WAS SO HAPPY.
LET'S CALL TO SOME BIRDS NOW!


NYA NYA
NYA
NYA
NYA NYA
NYA
......
YOU ARE TALKING TELEPATHICALLY NOW? WOW YOU CAN REALLY DO IT?
I ASKED IF THEY SAW ANY HUMANS AND HE ANSWERED THERE IS NO ONE, ONLY US TWO.
NYA!
NYA!

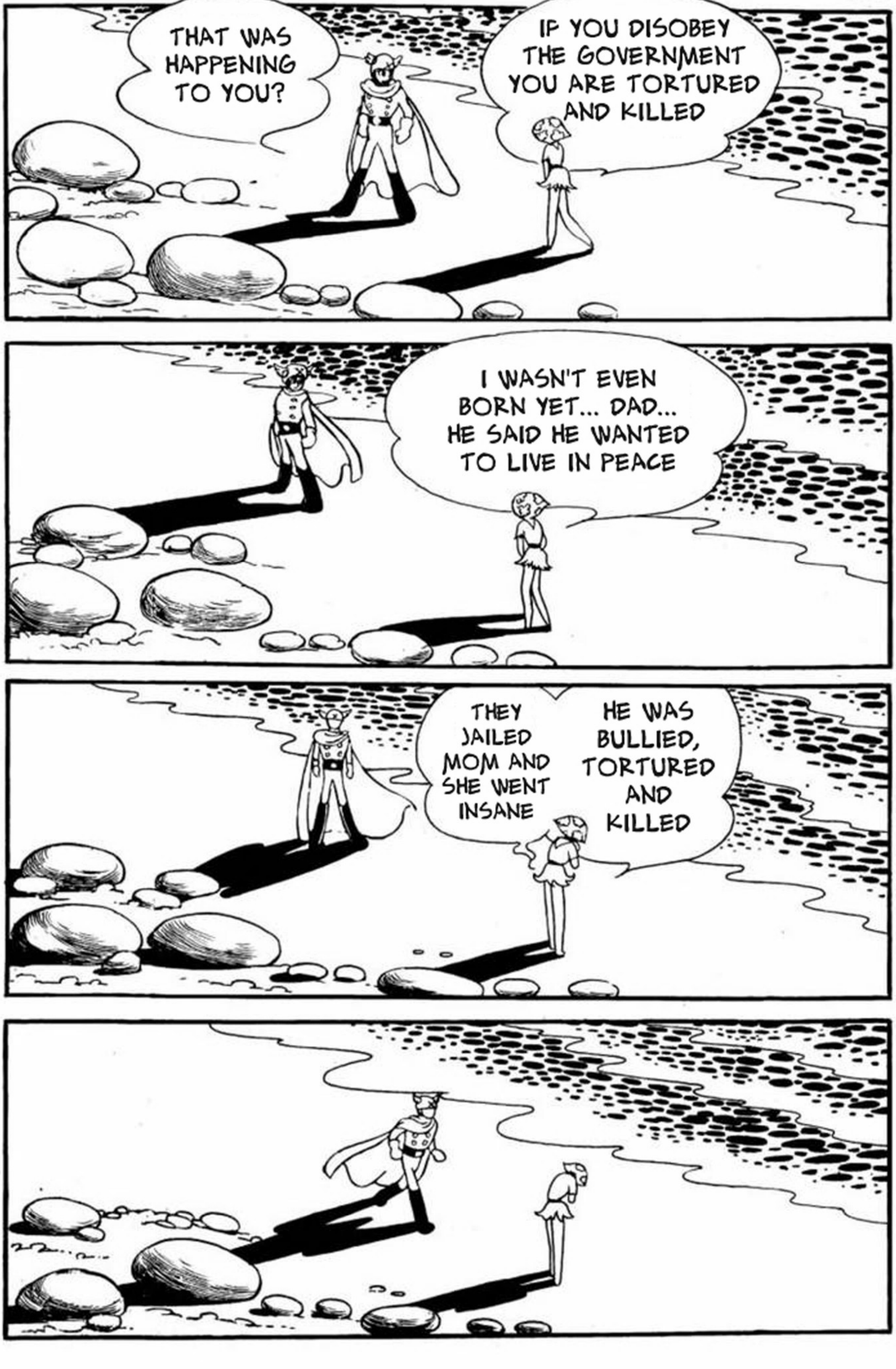

WHAT THE...
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IT'S A PATROL PLANE!
NINA, GO HIDE BEHIND THE BOULDERS

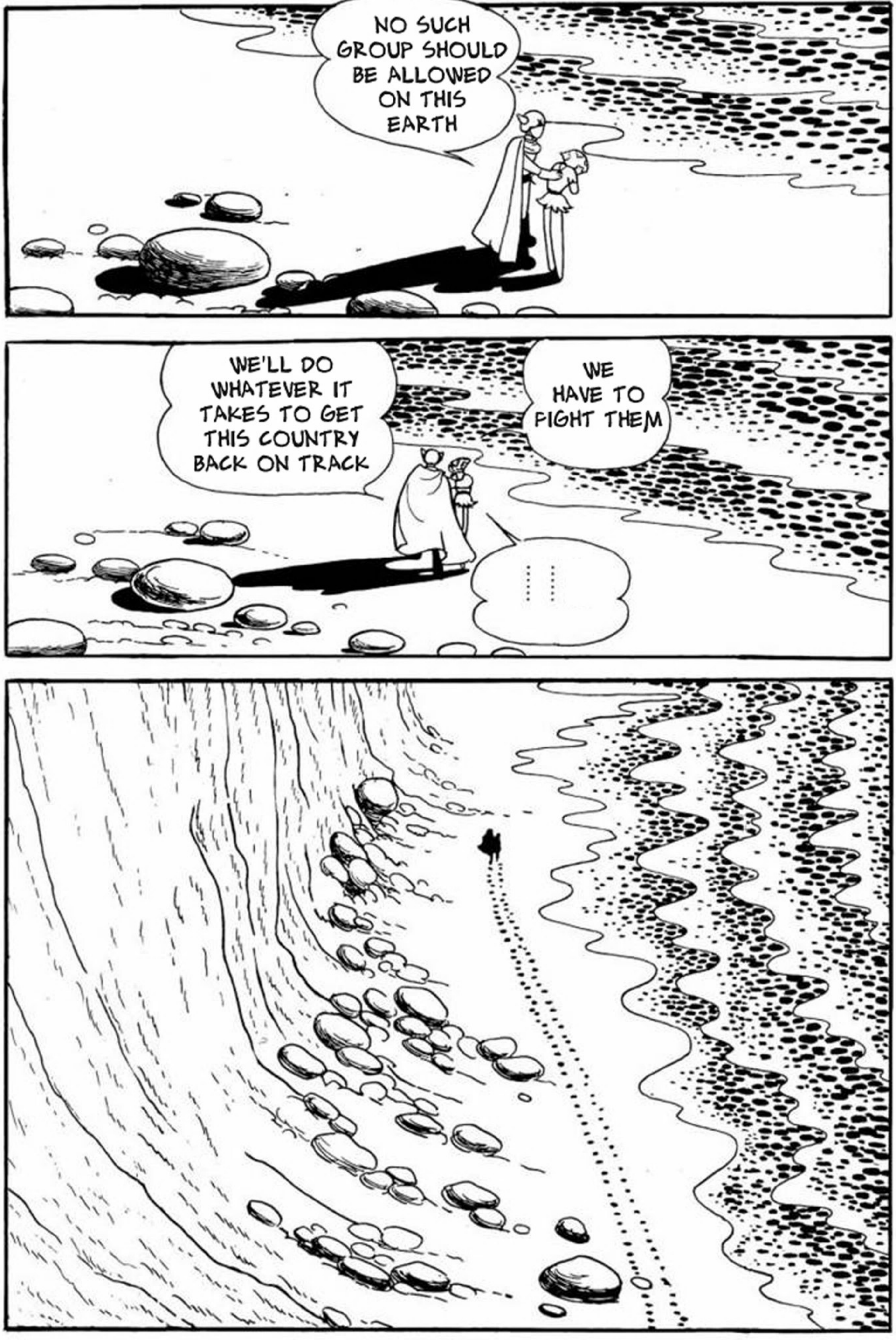

HURRY!
HURRY UP!
THEY FOUND US!
GET DOWN!

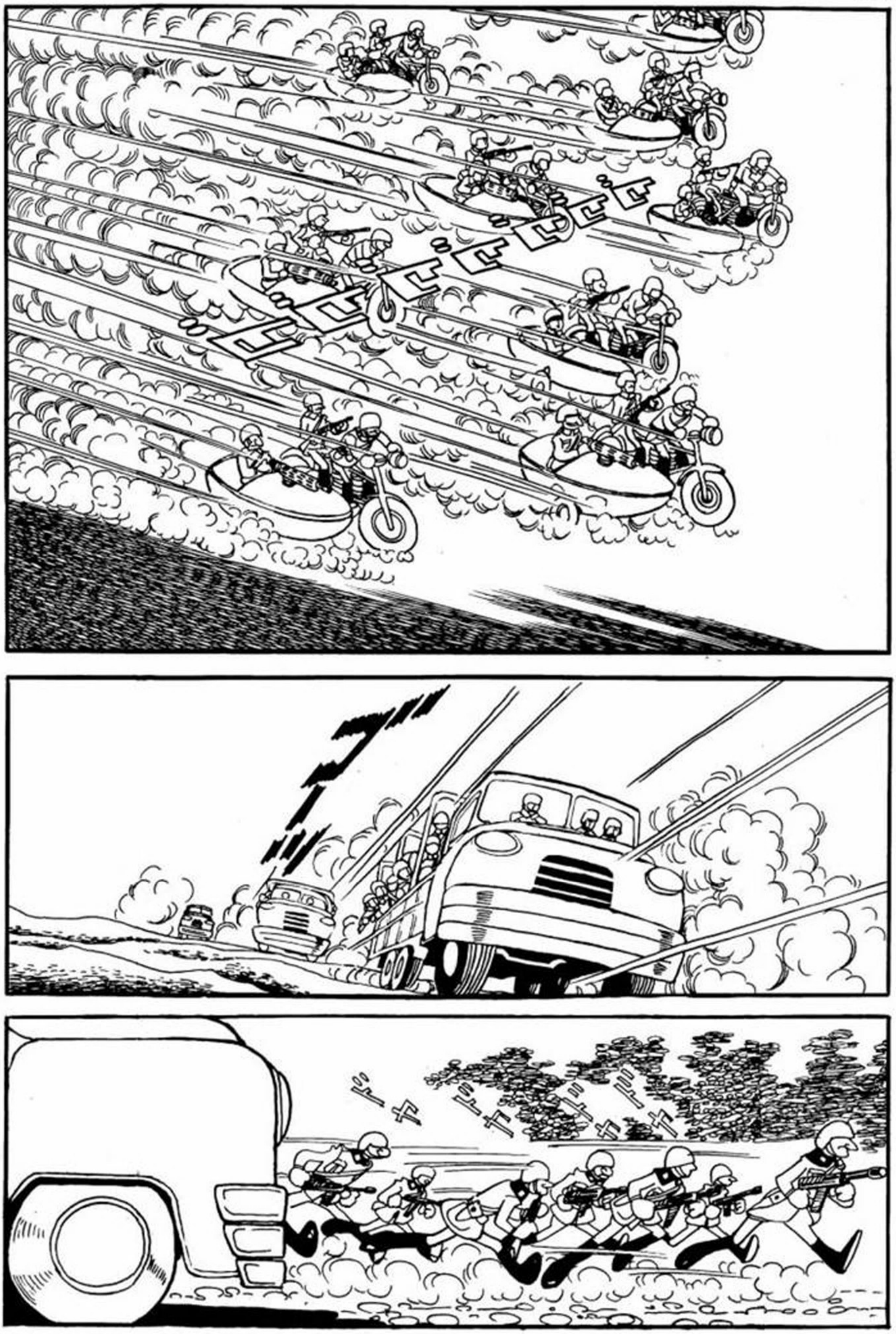

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ダッ！ダッ！ダッ！ダッ！ダッ！

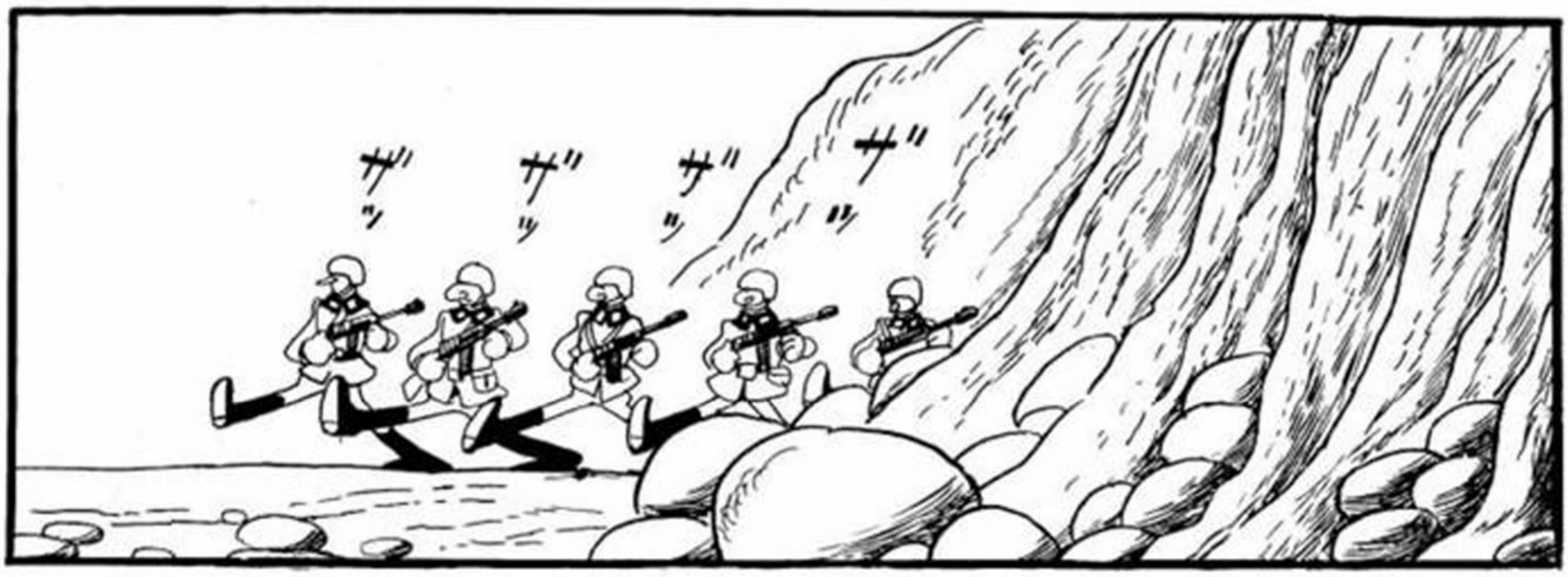

IN HERE!
WE CAN'T SEE EM FROM THE AIR
LET'S GET BOOTS ON THE GROUND
IT'S GONE... HE GAVE UP
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?
THIS PLACE IS NUTS
IT'S JUST THE WAY THIS PLACE IS.
IT'S LIKE WWII GERMANY, FULL OF NAZIS.

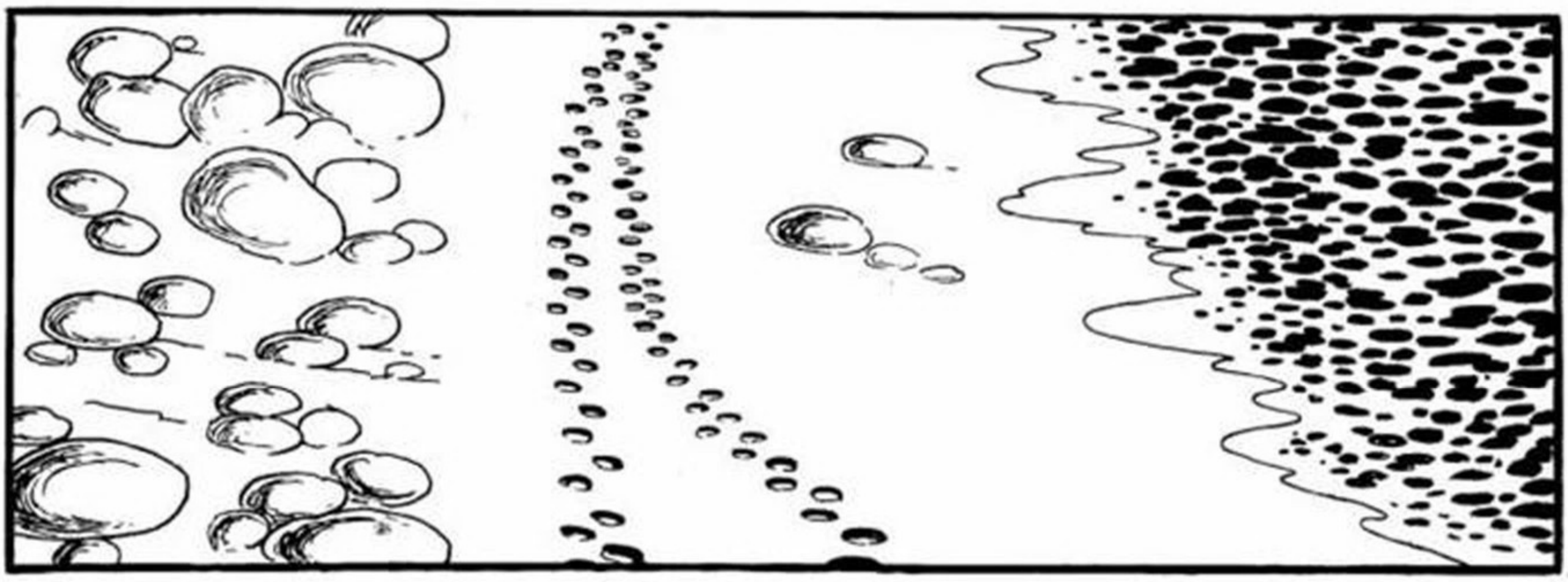

WELL, THIS COUNTRY, CARTHAGE, HAS ALWAYS HAD A PENCHANT FOR WAR
THEY SIDED WITH THE NAZIS AND AFTER THE WAR THEY STARTED IMITATING THEM
HMM THEN IT'S TRUE
RUMOR HAS IT THAT MANY NAZI SOLDIERS FLED HERE AND ARE IN HIDING
HUH...
YES THE GOVERNMENT IS JUST LIKE THE NAZIES IN MILITARY AND POLITICAL STANCE

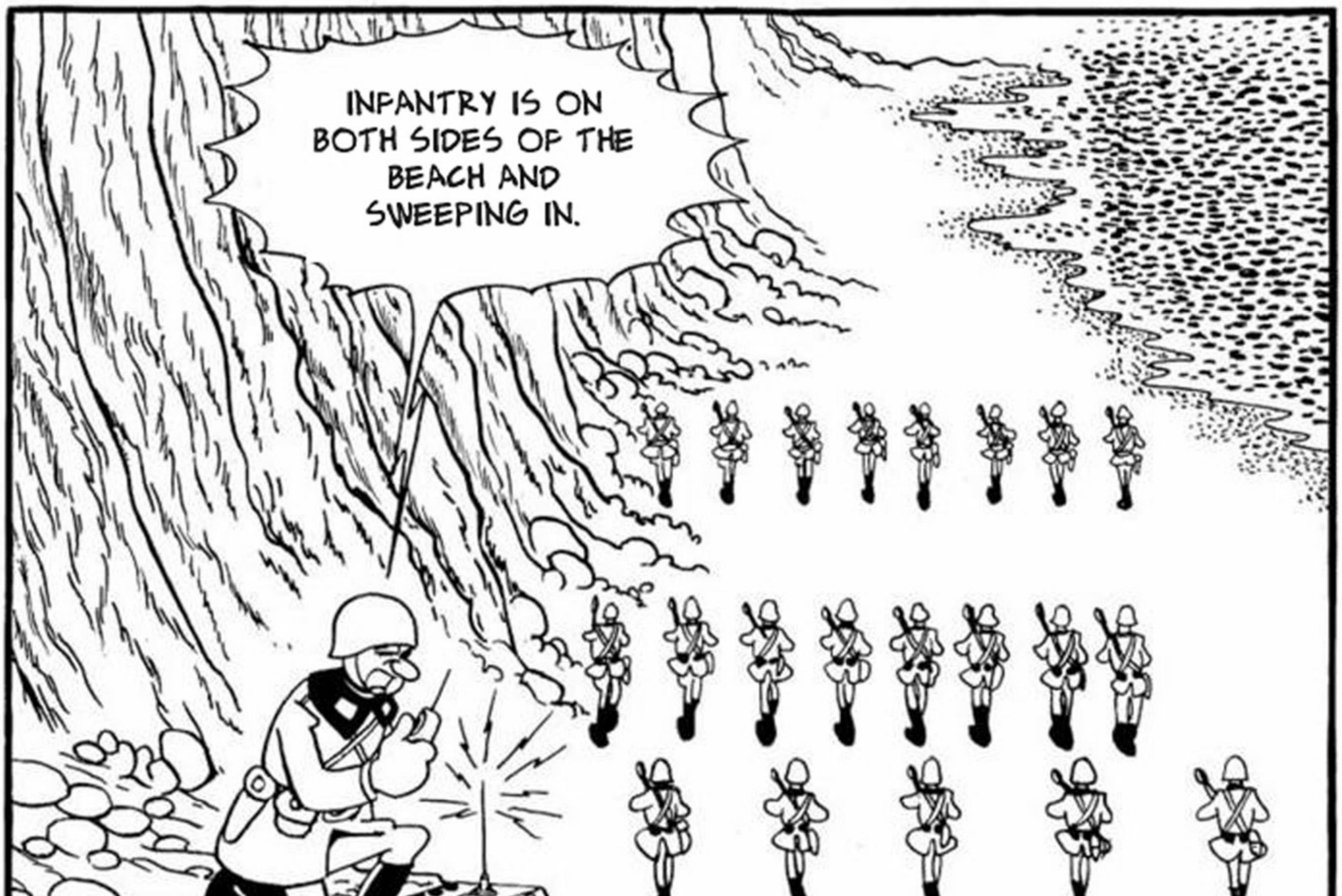

THAT WAS HAPPENING TO YOU?
IF YOU DISOBEY THE GOVERNMENT YOU ARE TORTURED AND KILLED
I WASN'T EVEN BORN YET... DAD... HE SAID HE WANTED TO LIVE IN PEACE
HE WAS BULLIED, TORTURED AND KILLED
THEY JAILED MOM AND SHE WENT INSANE

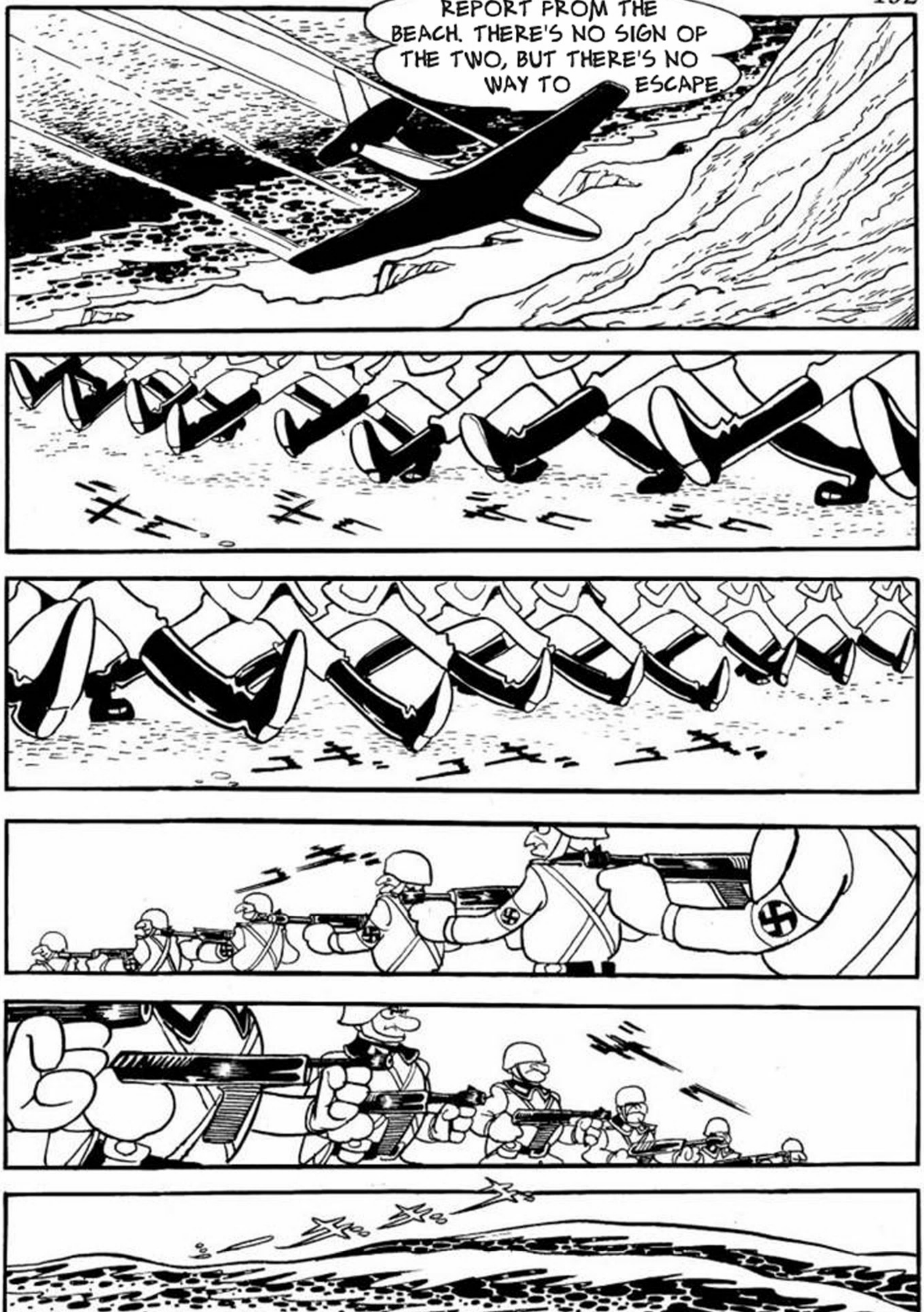

NO SUCH GROUP SHOULD BE ALLOWED ON THIS EARTH
WE HAVE TO FIGHT THEM
WE'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET THIS COUNTRY BACK ON TRACK
!!

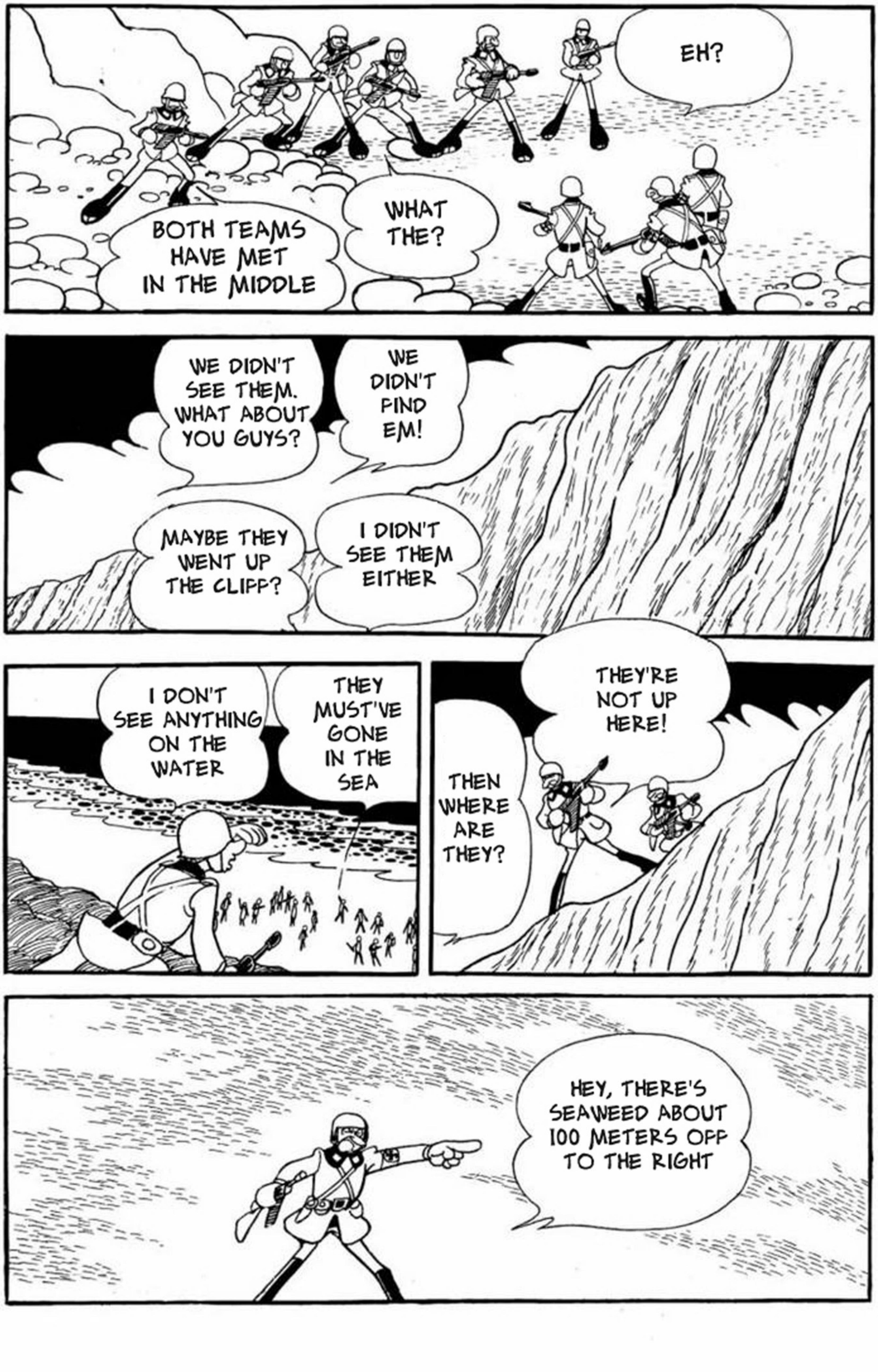

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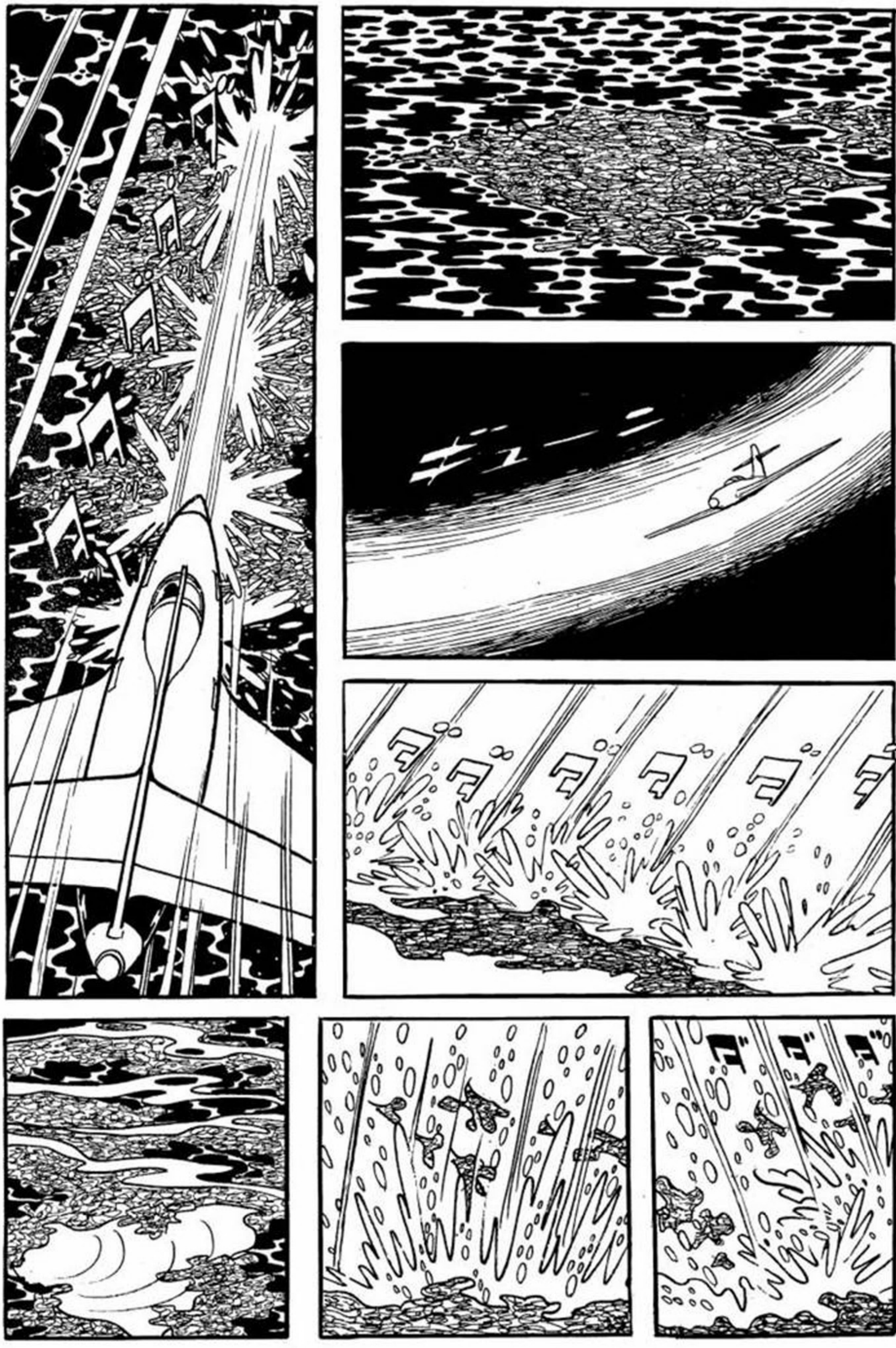

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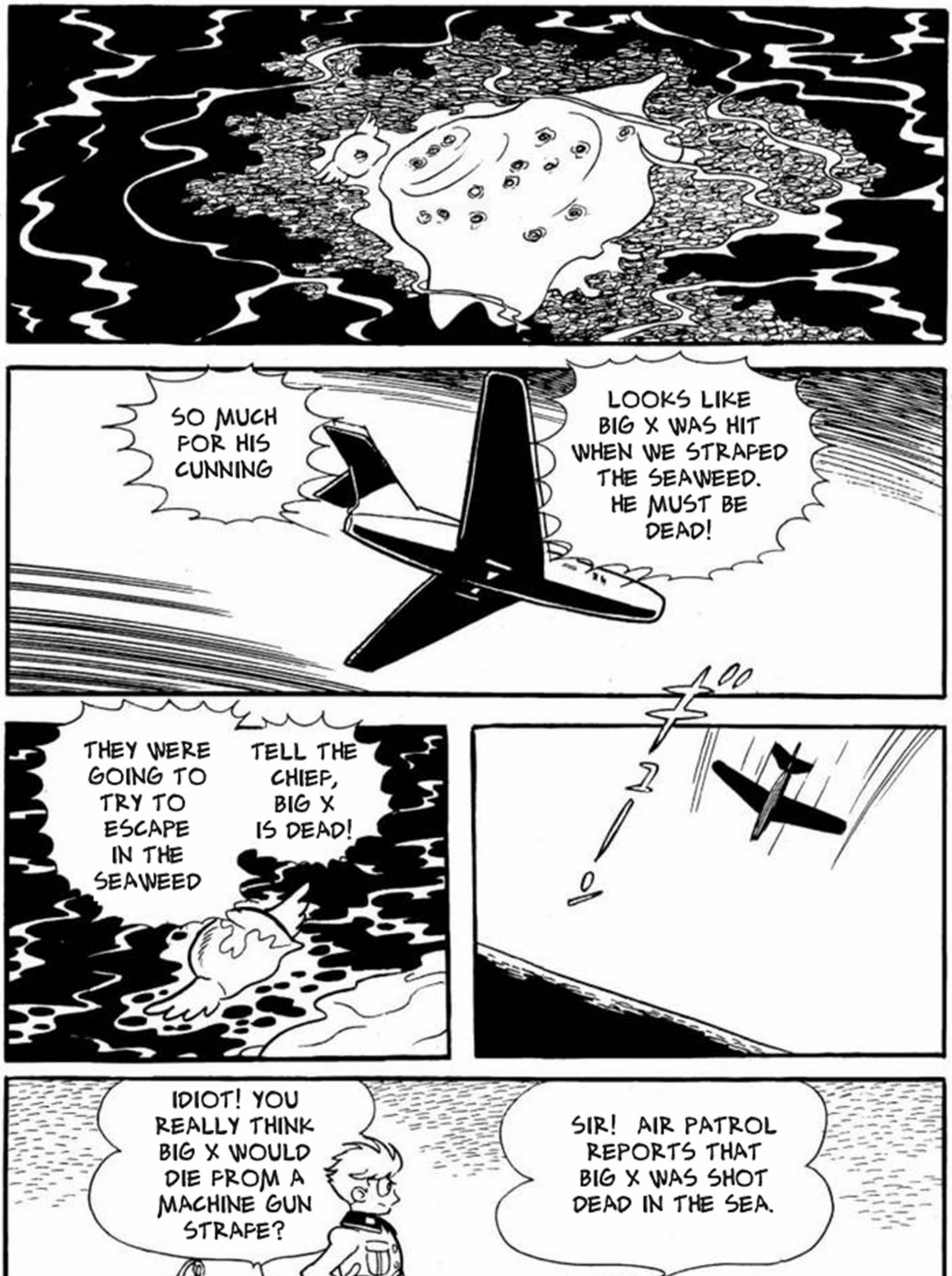


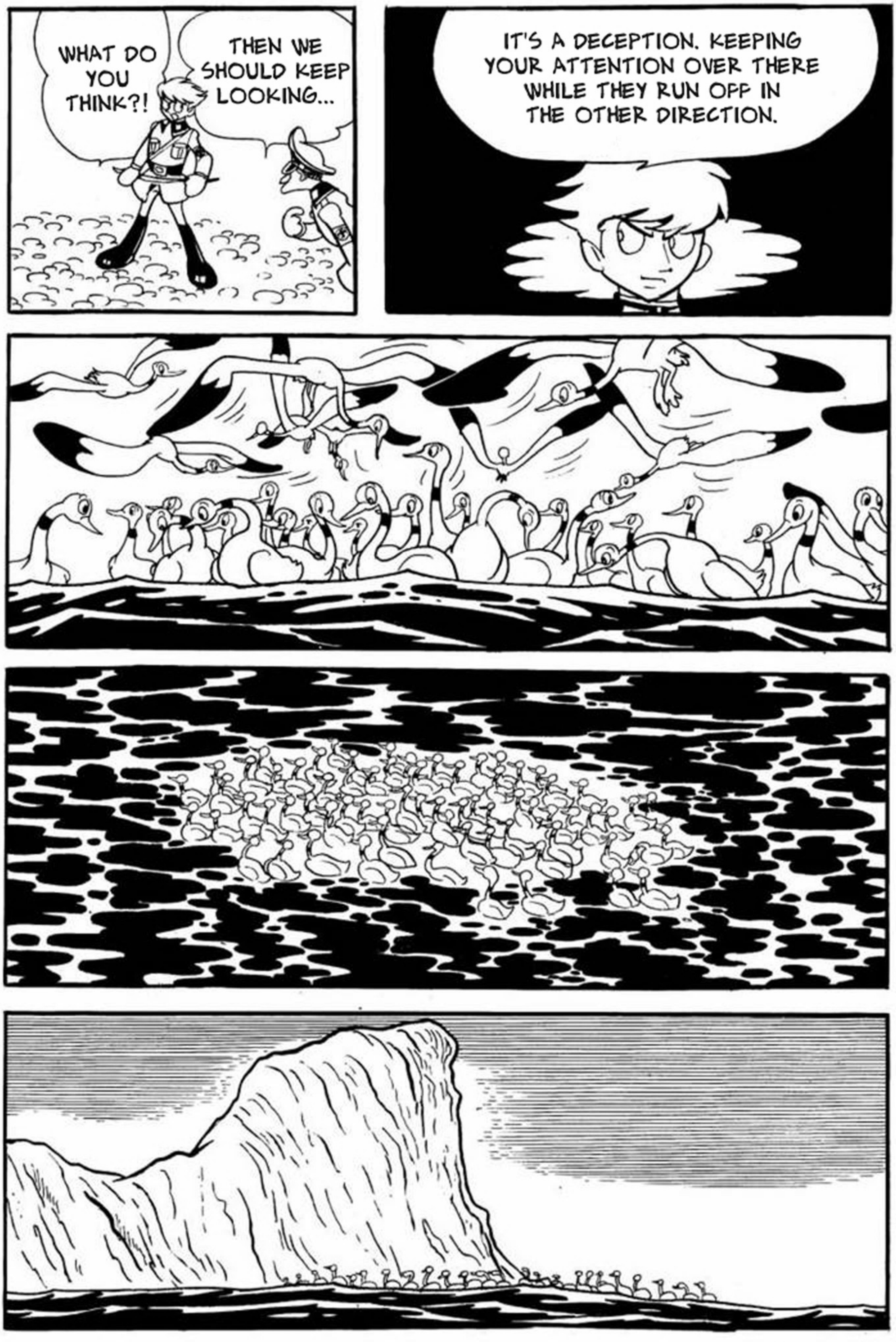

INFANTRY IS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BEACH AND SWEEPING IN.


REPORT FROM THE BEACH. THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE TWO, BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO ESCAPE

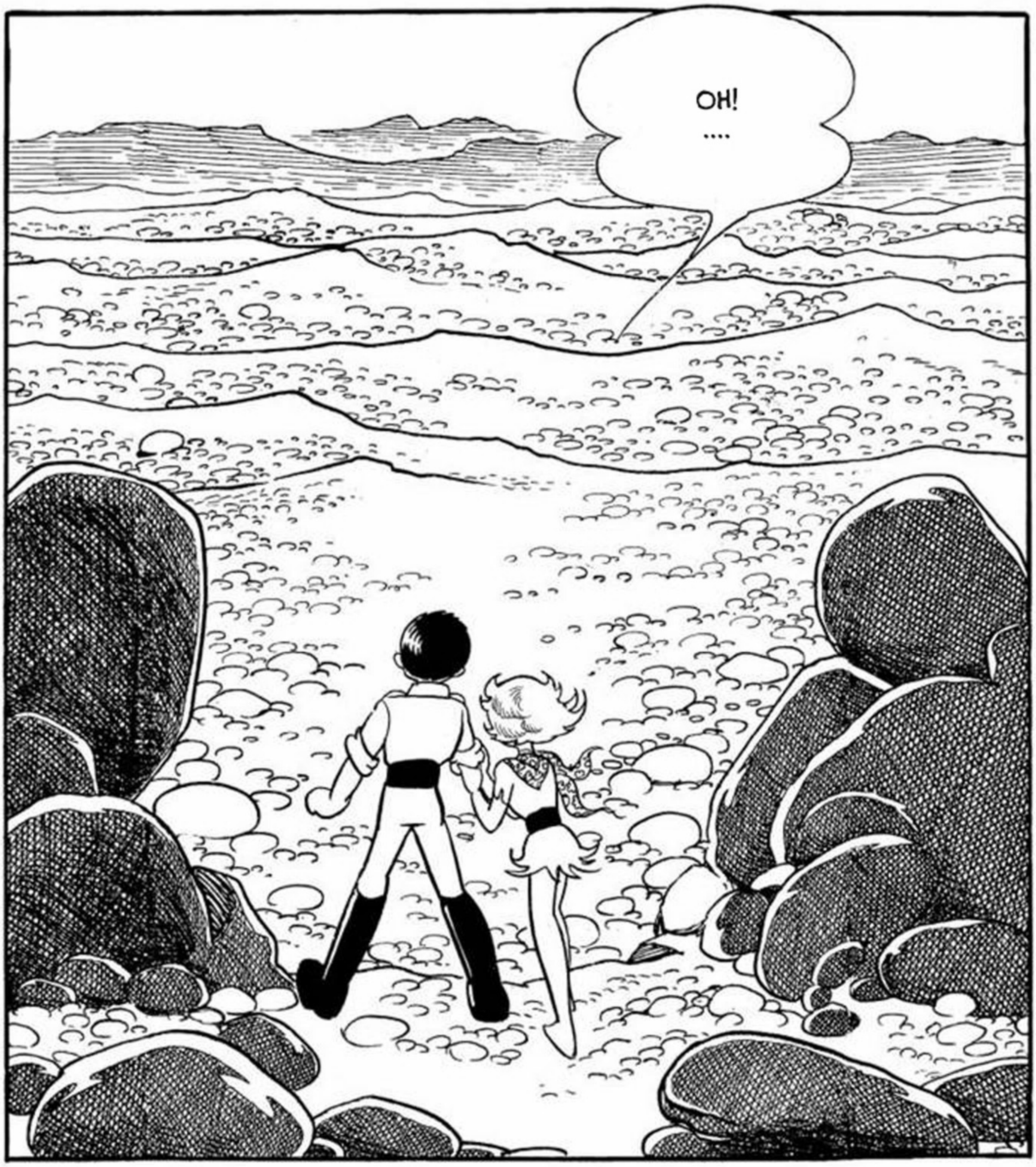

EH?
WHAT THE?
BOTH TEAMS HAVE MET IN THE MIDDLE
WE DIDN'T FIND EM!
WE DIDN'T SEE THEM. WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
I DIDN'T SEE THEM EITHER
MAYBE THEY WENT UP THE CLIFF?
THEY'RE NOT UP HERE!
THEN WHERE ARE THEY?
THEY MUST'VE GONE IN THE SEA
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING ON THE WATER
HEY, THERE'S SEAWEED ABOUT 100 METERS OFF TO THE RIGHT


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LOOKS LIKE BIG X WAS HIT WHEN WE STRAFED THE SEAWEED. HE MUST BE DEAD!
SO MUCH FOR HIS CUNNING
TELL THE CHIEF, BIG X IS DEAD!
THEY WERE GOING TO TRY TO ESCAPE IN THE SEAWEED
SIR! AIR PATROL REPORTS THAT BIG X WAS SHOT DEAD IN THE SEA.
IDIOT! YOU REALLY THINK BIG X WOULD DIE FROM A MACHINE GUN STRAFE?

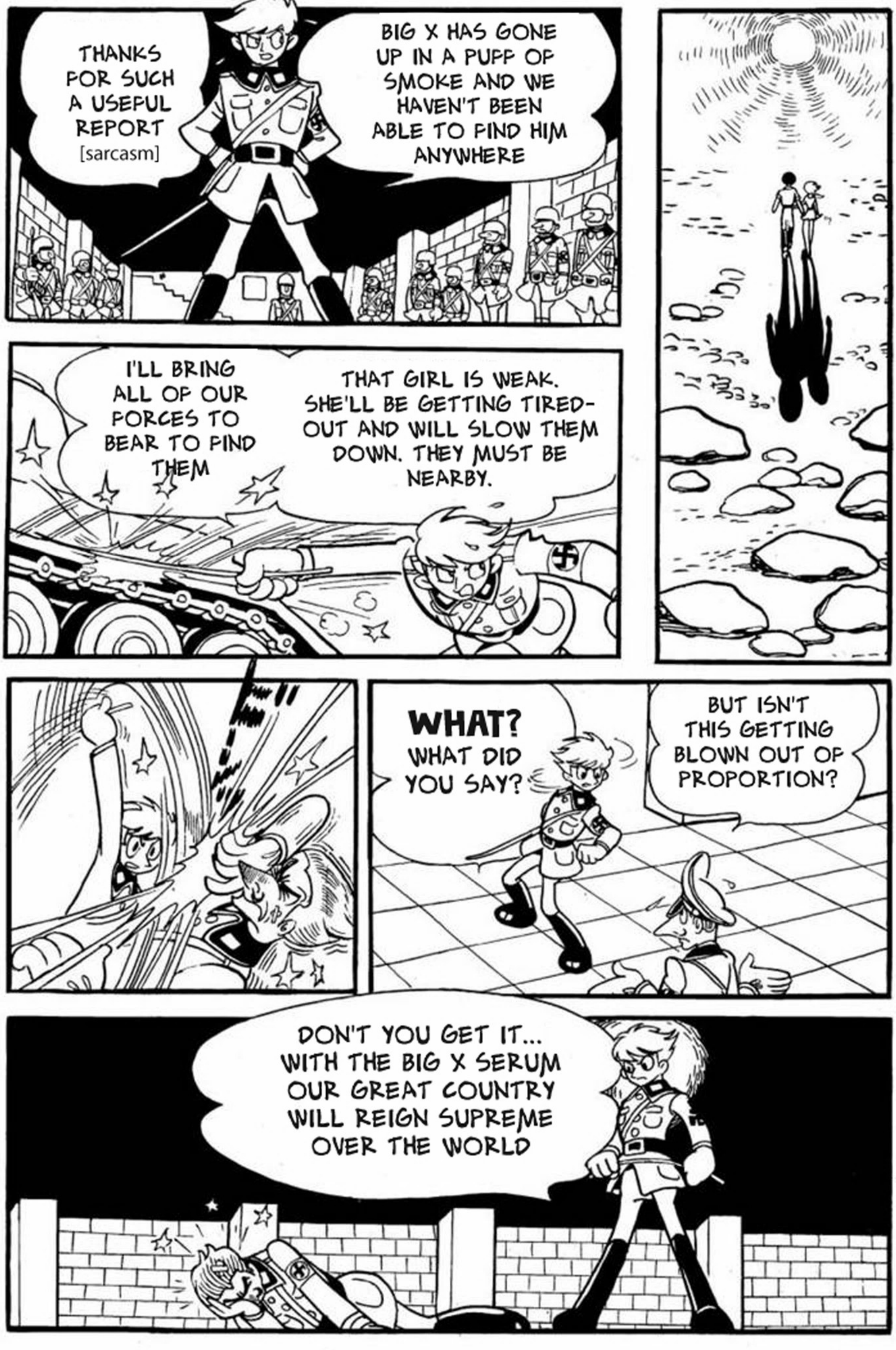

WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
THEN WE SHOULD KEEP LOOKING...
IT'S A DECEPTION. KEEPING YOUR ATTENTION OVER THERE WHILE THEY RUN OFF IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.

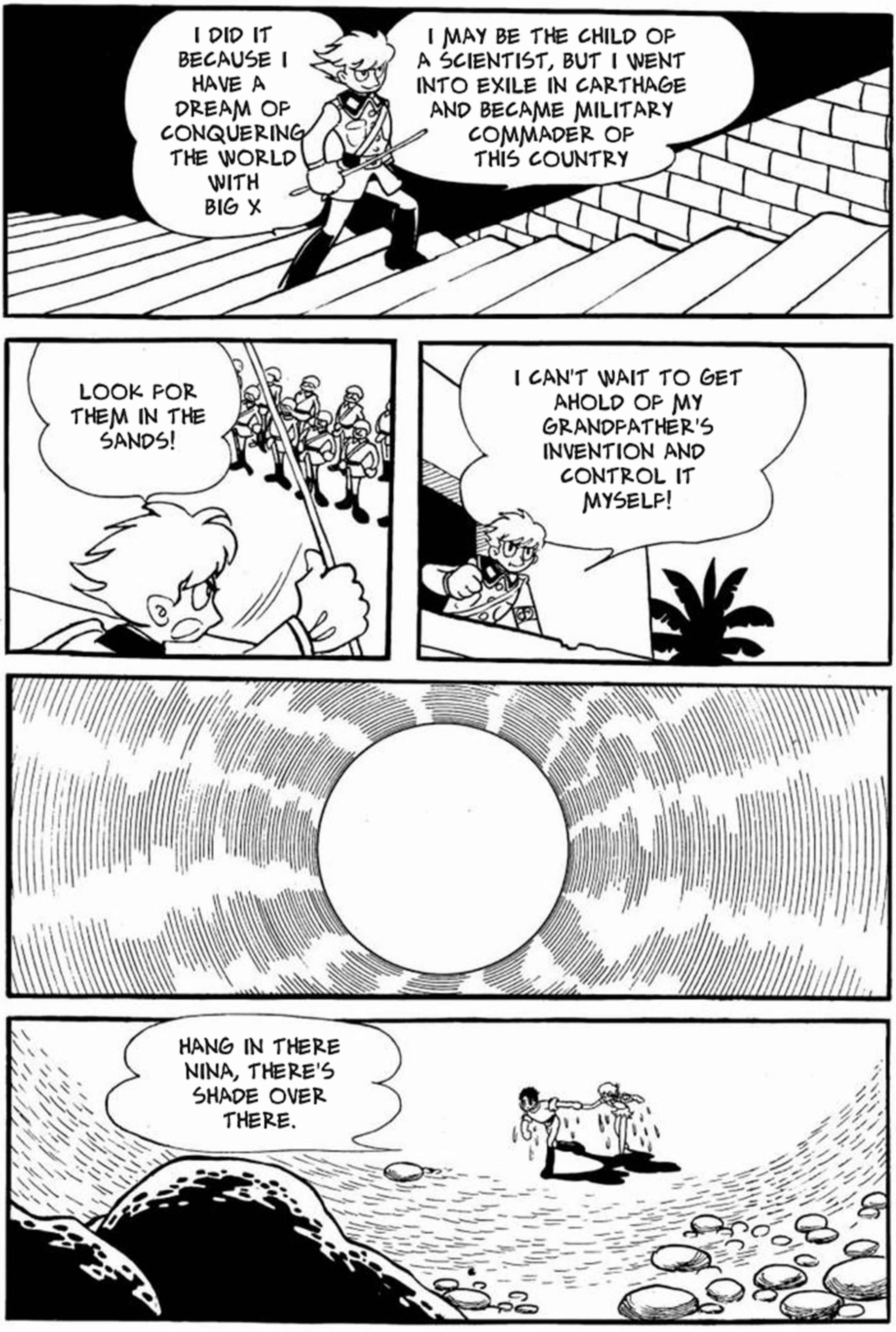

THANKS TO YOUR POWERS WE WERE SAVED!
LET'S GO THIS WAY, IT JUST MIGHT LEAD US OUT OF HERE.


OH!
....


WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT THROUGH THIS SAND
WHEN THE WARDEN SAID "IT'S USELESS TO TRY TO ESCAPE," HE WAS RIGHT.


THERE'S NO WAY I'LL LET YOU DIE IN THIS PLACE. AND WE'RE NOT GOING BACK EITHER.
WHAT WILL WE DO?
IF WE'RE GOING TO DIE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE MIGHT AS WELL GO FORWARD.
AGREED!
LET'S GET GOING
YES

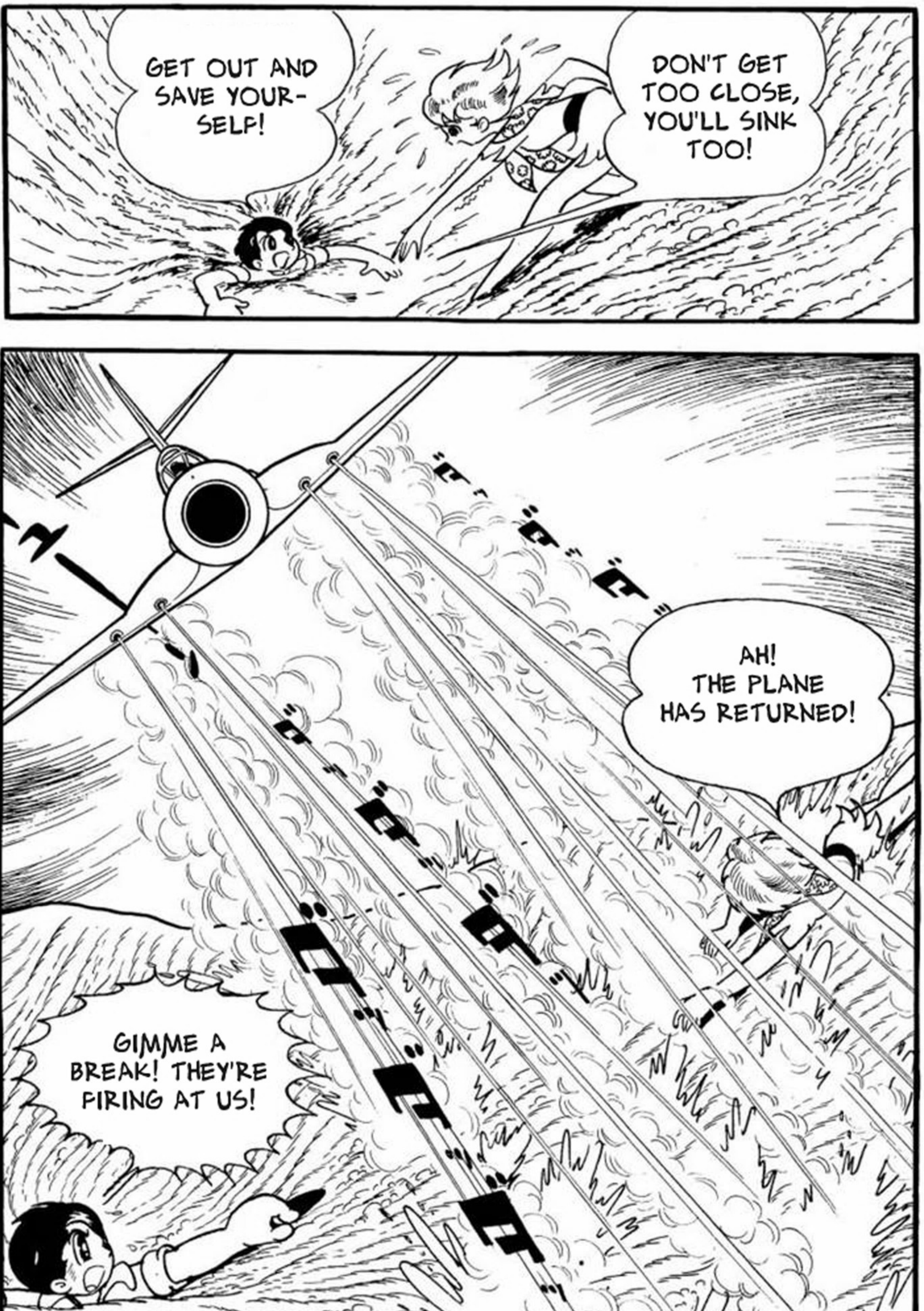

THANKS FOR SUCH A USEFUL REPORT
[sarcasm]
BIG X HAS GONE UP IN A PUFF OF SMOKE AND WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HIM ANYWHERE
I'LL BRING ALL OF OUR FORCES TO BEAR TO FIND THEM
THAT GIRL IS WEAK. SHE'LL BE GETTING TIRED-OUT AND WILL SLOW THEM DOWN. THEY MUST BE NEARBY.
BUT ISN'T THIS GETTING BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION?
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
DON'T YOU GET IT... WITH THE BIG X SERUM OUR GREAT COUNTRY WILL REIGN SUPREME OVER THE WORLD

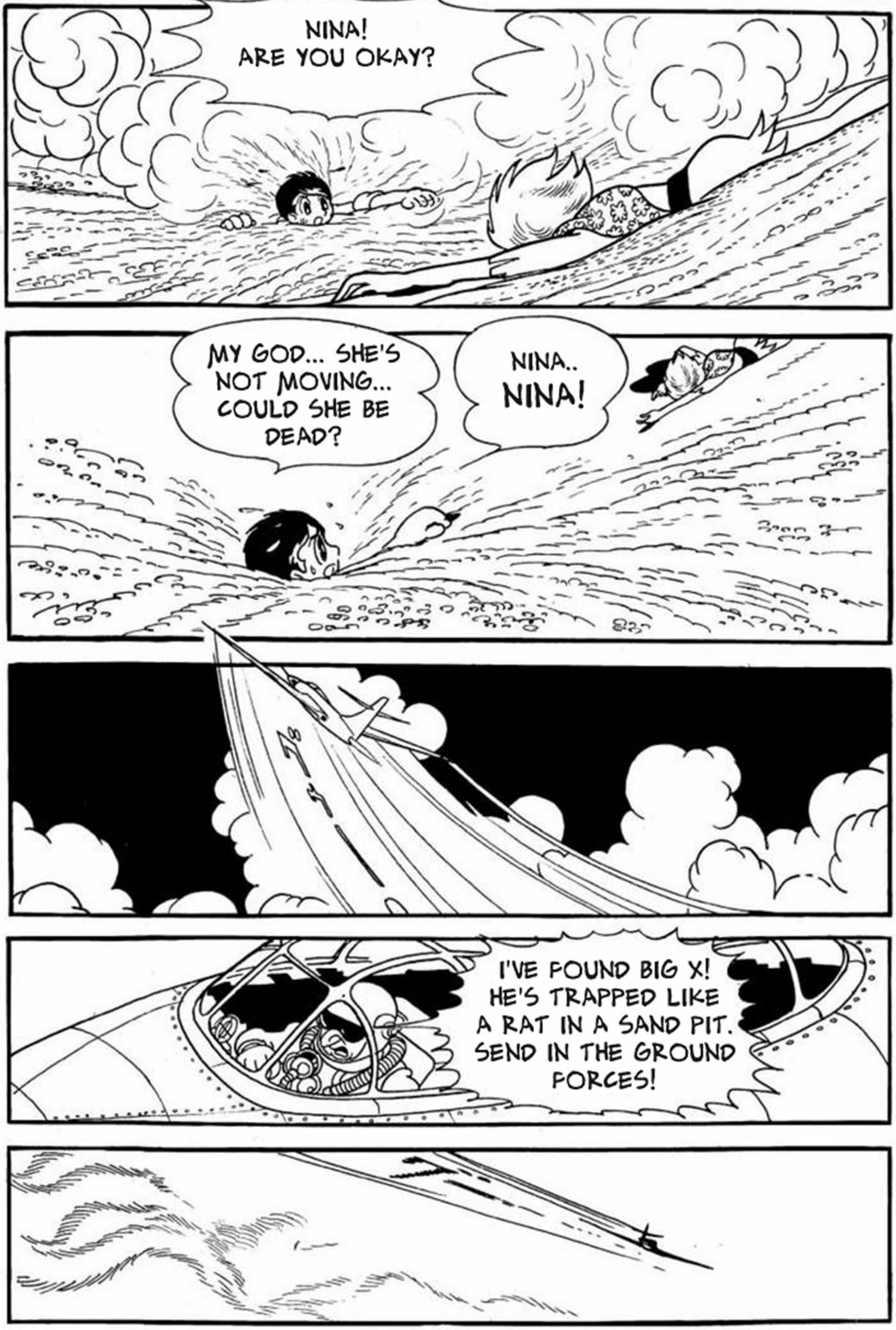

I DID IT BECAUSE I HAVE A DREAM OF CONQUERING THE WORLD WITH BIG X
I MAY BE THE CHILD OF A SCIENTIST, BUT I WENT INTO EXILE IN CARTHAGE AND BECAME MILITARY COMMADER OF THIS COUNTRY
LOOK FOR THEM IN THE SANDS!
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET AHOLD OF MY GRANDFATHER'S INVENTION AND CONTROL IT MYSELF!
HANG IN THERE NINA, THERE'S SHADE OVER THERE.


THE HEAT IS KILLING US.
IT'S A RATTLE-SNAKE!
AH..
BE CARE-FUL NINA!
JUST WAIT .....

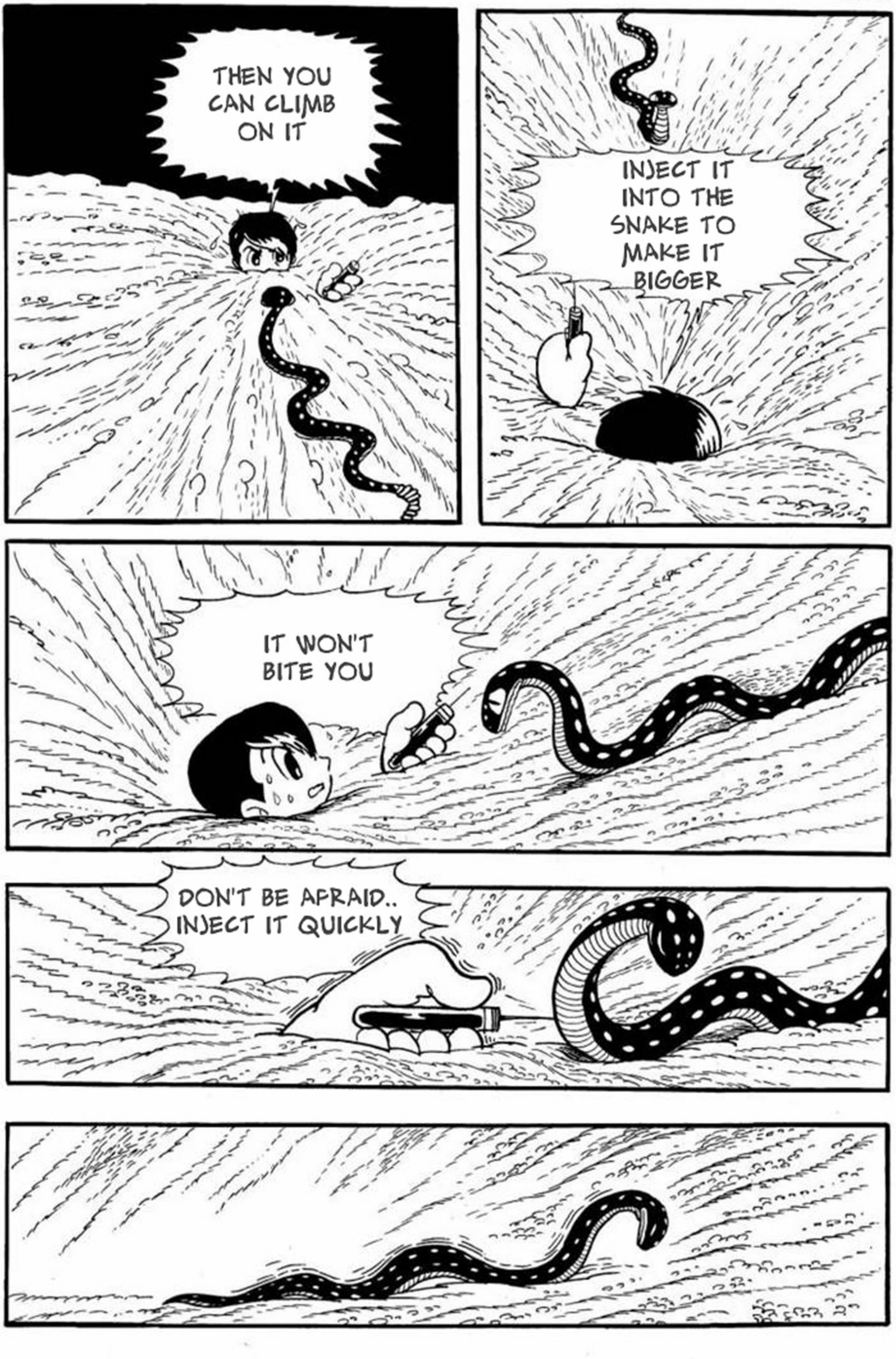

I GET IT YOU'RE USING YOUR POWERS
NINA, YOU SEEM TO HAVE MADE A FRIEND
I WAS ASKING HIM TO TAKE US TO WATER
WE SHOULD FOLLOW THIS SNAKE
IT'S A DESERT SNAKE, SO IT'S BOUND TO KNOW WHERE TO FIND IT
TO WATER?

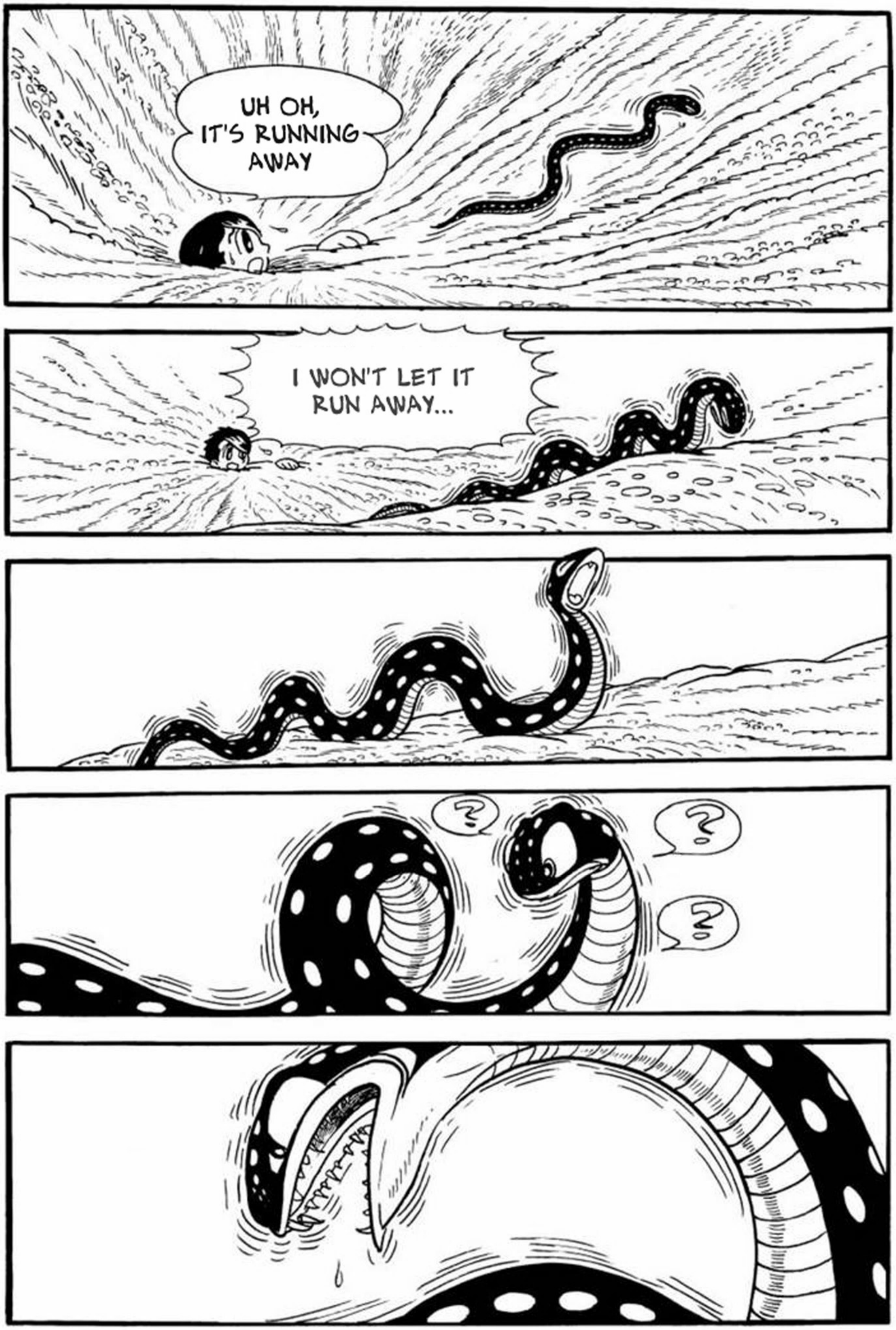

WE'RE SAVED!
WATER! IT'S TRUE, JUST LIKE NINA SAID!
ズボッ!
OH NO! IT'S QUICK SAND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PIT
QUICK! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!

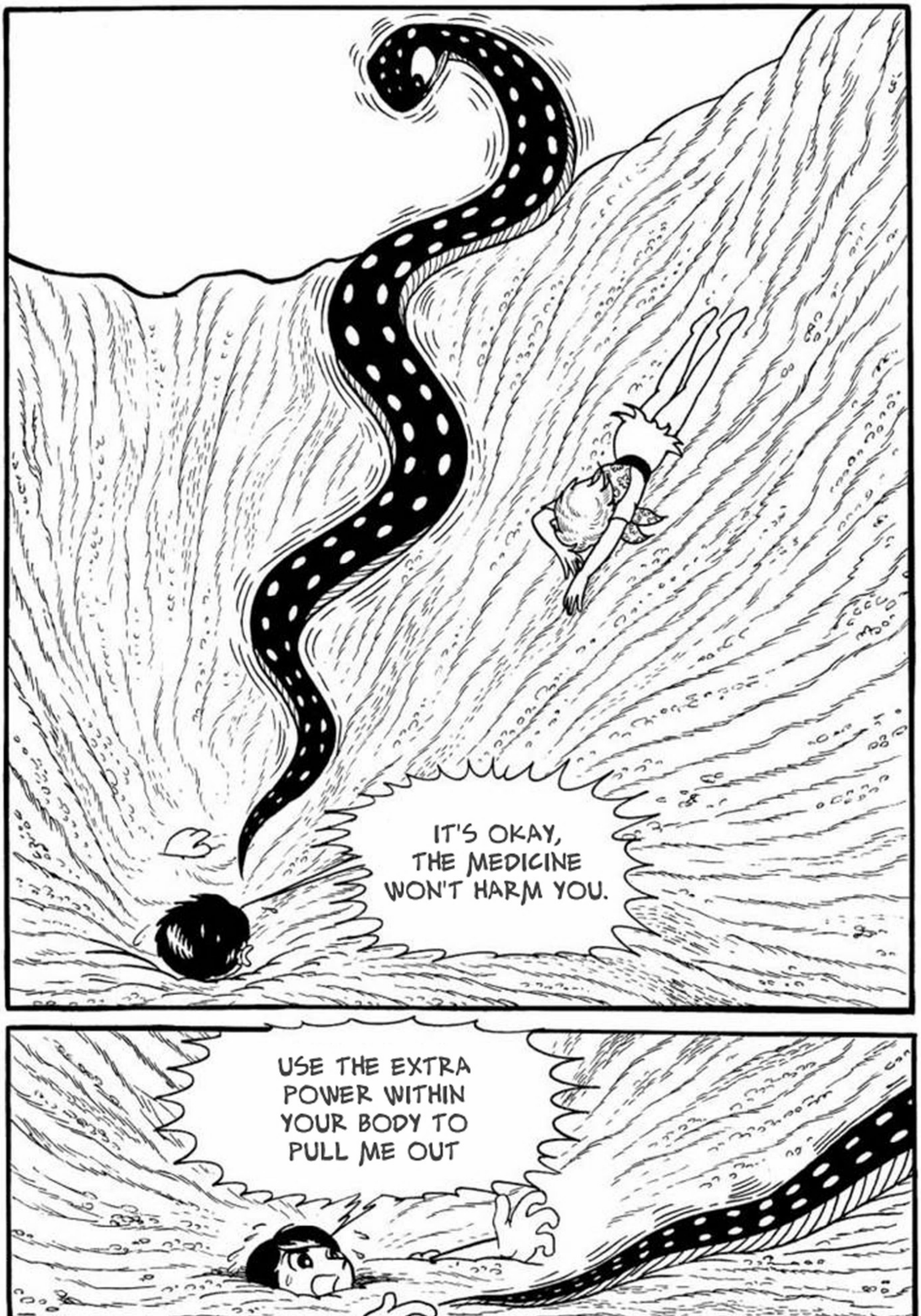

DON'T GET TOO CLOSE, YOU'LL SINK TOO!
GET OUT AND SAVE YOUR-SELF!
AH! THE PLANE HAS RETURNED!
GIMME A BREAK! THEY'RE FIRING AT US!


NINA! ARE YOU OKAY?
MY GOD... SHE'S NOT MOVING... COULD SHE BE DEAD?
NINA.. NINA!
I'VE FOUND BIG X! HE'S TRAPPED LIKE A RAT IN A SAND PIT. SEND IN THE GROUND FORCES!


YES BUT I'M HURT. I CAN'T TALK BECAUSE I WAS HIT IN THE CHEST
NINA! NINA ARE YOU ALIVE?
DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE POWER OF BIG X. WITH IT YOU CAN GET OUT OF THIS
BUT I CAN TALK TO YOU WITH TELEPATHY. AKIRA, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
NINA!
THAT'S TRUE
NO, IF YOU DO IT NOW YOU'LL SINK FURTHER INTO THE PIT
THAT'S RIGHT... I'LL TRY..
USE THE SNAKE

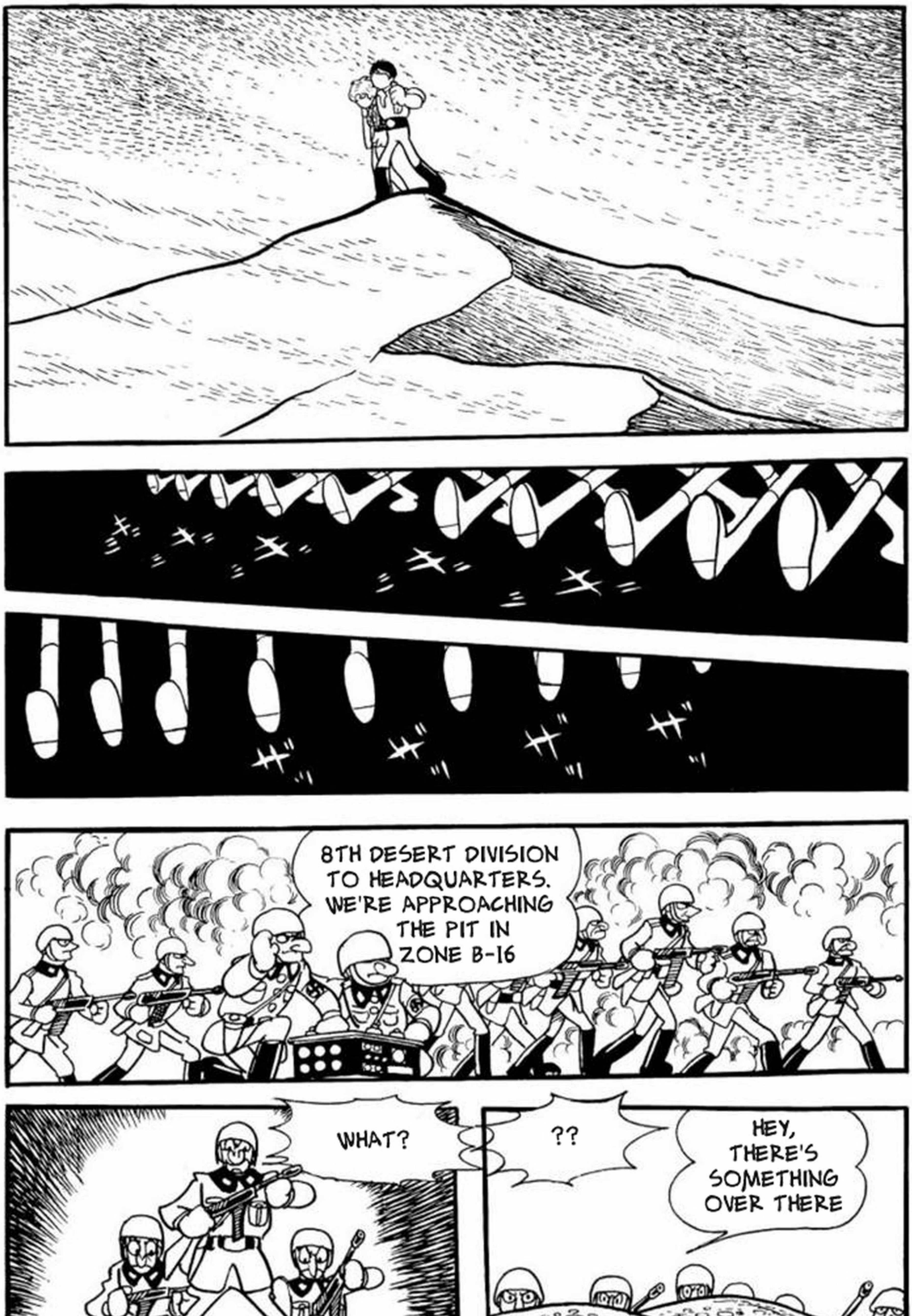

THEN YOU CAN CLIMB ON IT
INJECT IT INTO THE SNAKE TO MAKE IT BIGGER
IT WON'T BITE YOU
DON'T BE AFRAID.. INJECT IT QUICKLY

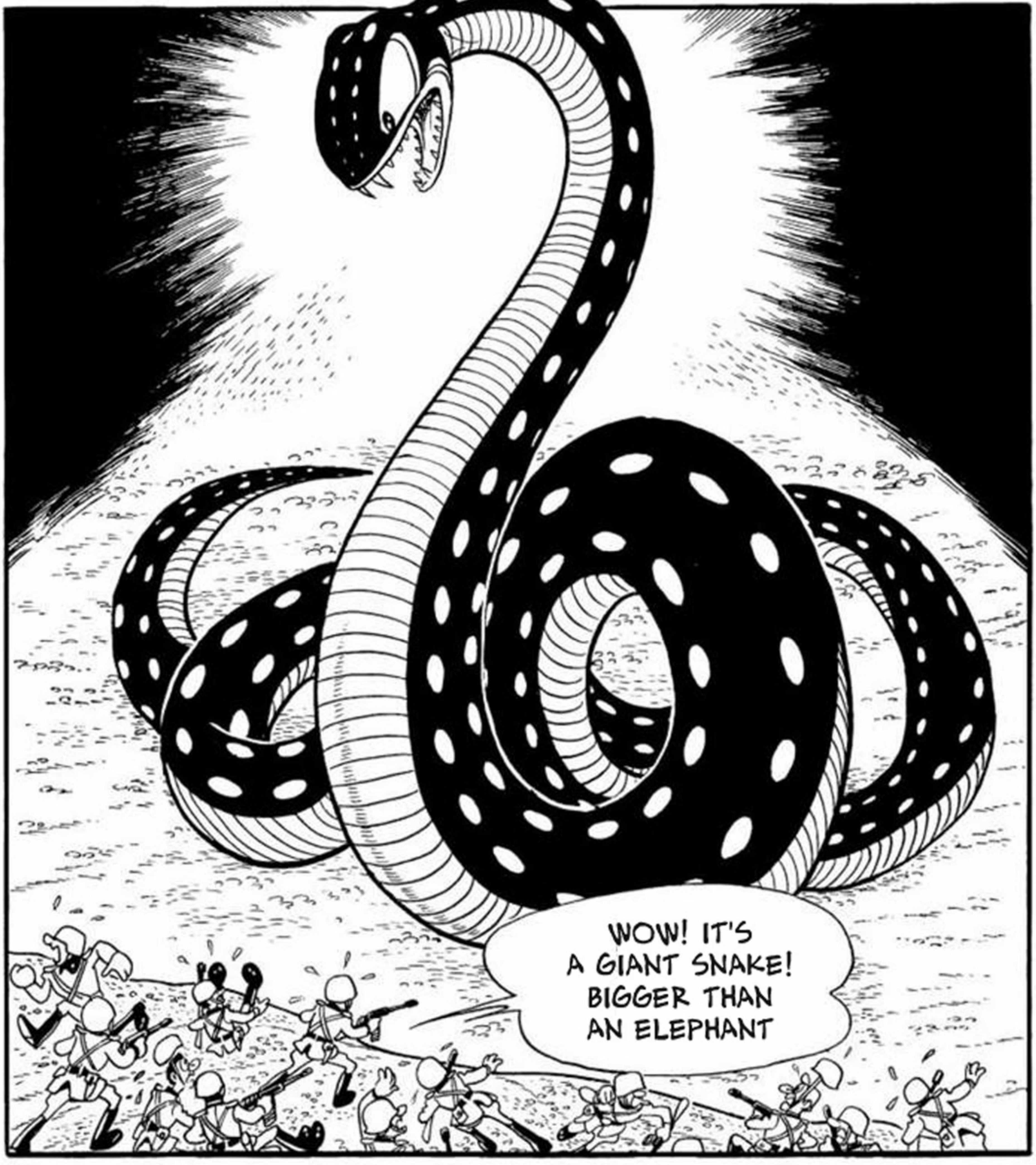

UH OH,
IT'S RUNNING
AWAY
I WON'T LET IT
RUN AWAY...
?
?
?

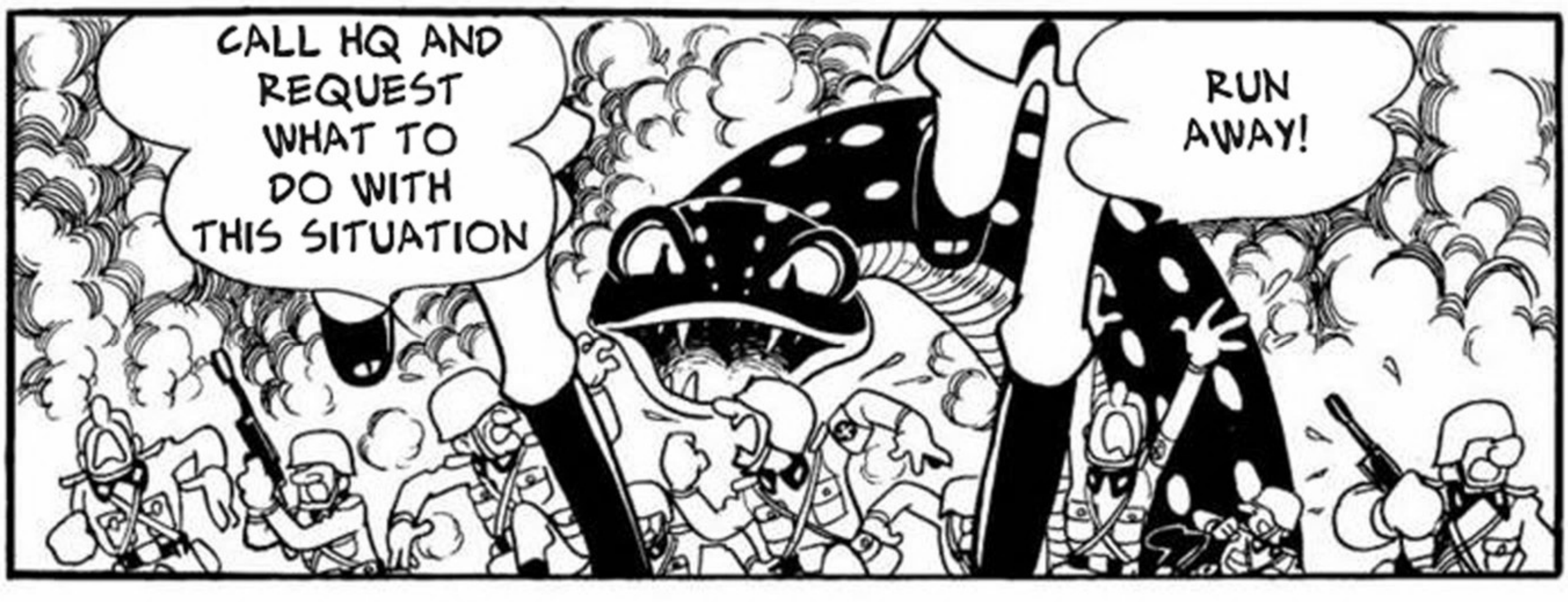

IT'S OKAY,
THE MEDICINE
WON'T HARM YOU.
USE THE EXTRA
POWER WITHIN
YOUR BODY TO
PULL ME OUT


NINA! HOLD ON!
THANK YOU SO MUCH! YOU GOT ME OUT!
GOOD ... JOB ...
WOW AMAZING!
OH!! SHE'S GOT A TERRIBLE CHEST WOUND
A GIANT SNAKE IS GOING TO BE A BIT CONSPICUOUS
I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THIS RIGHT AWAY

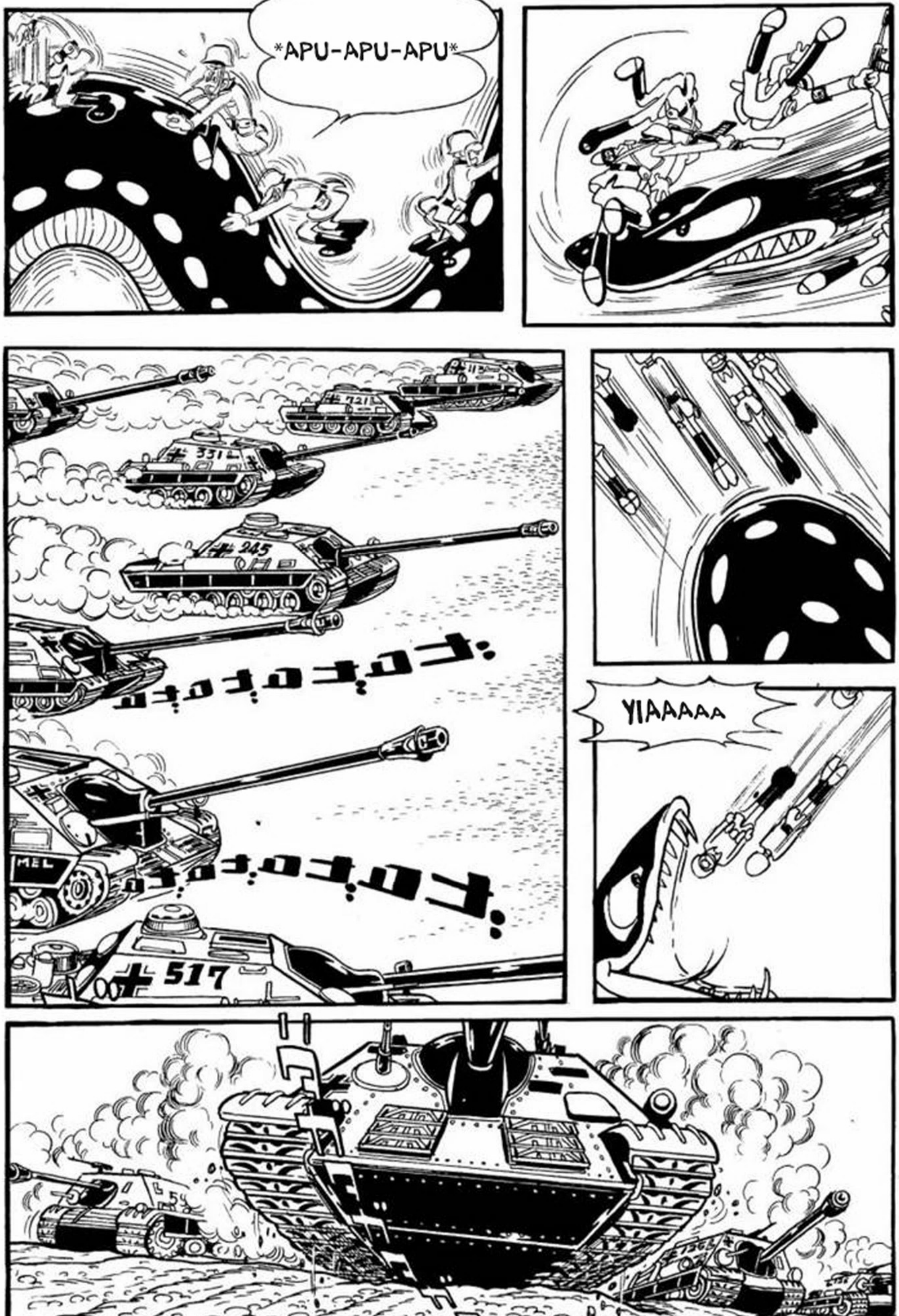

AKIRA, LEAVE ME HERE. I DON'T WANT TO SLOW YOU DOWN.
YOU HAVE BIG X AND THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT. YOU HAVE ESCAPE
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS I WON'T LEAVE YOU BEHIND
LOOK, THERE'S DUST RISING ON THE HORIZON
IT MUST BE THE ENEMY HEADING THIS WAY
HAHAHA... LOOK... IT'S THE SNAKE. I THINK HE IS SEEING US OFF.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT MR. SNAKE

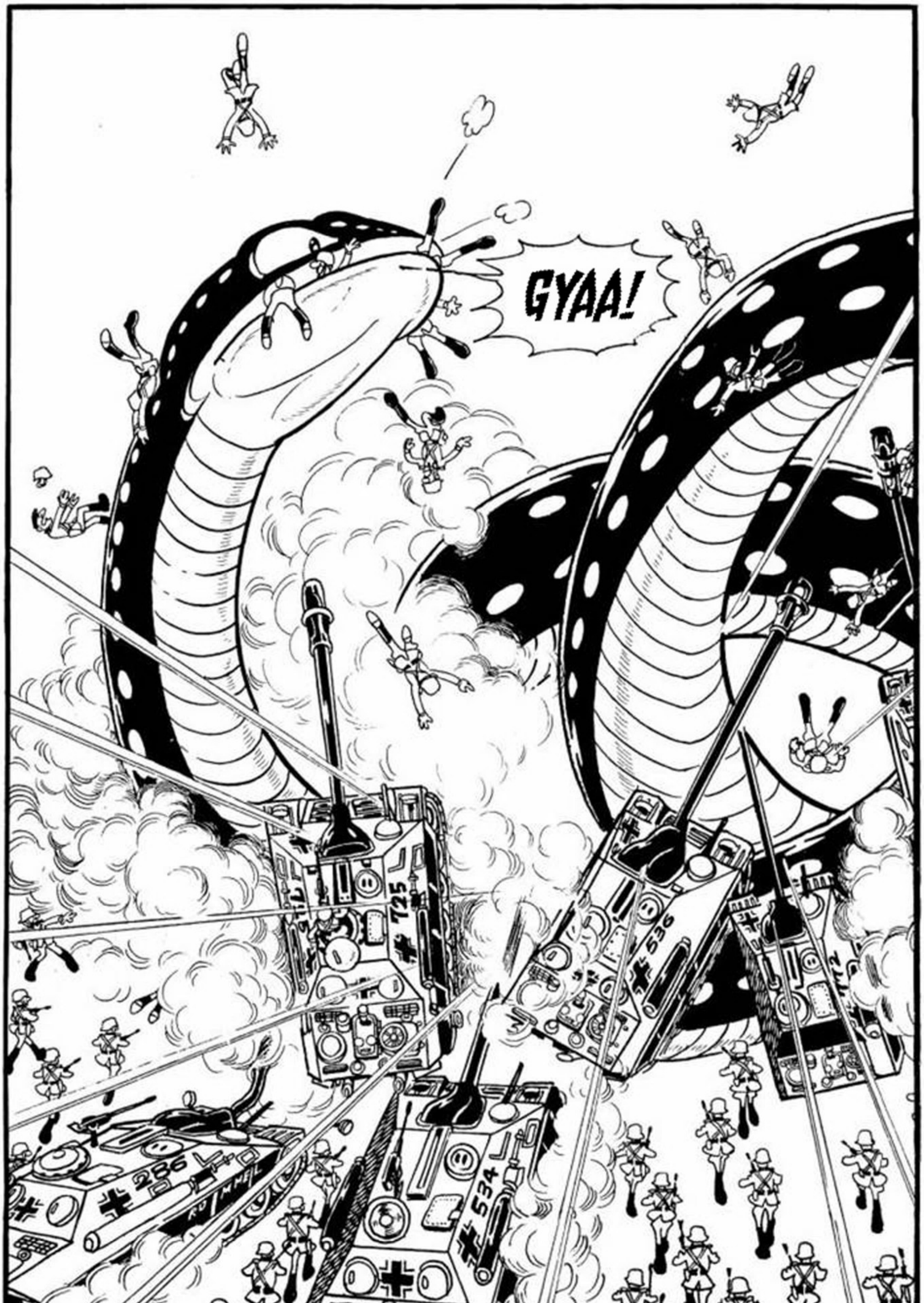

8TH DESERT DIVISION TO HEADQUARTERS. WE'RE APPROACHING THE PIT IN ZONE B-16
WHAT?
??
HEY, THERE'S SOMETHING OVER THERE

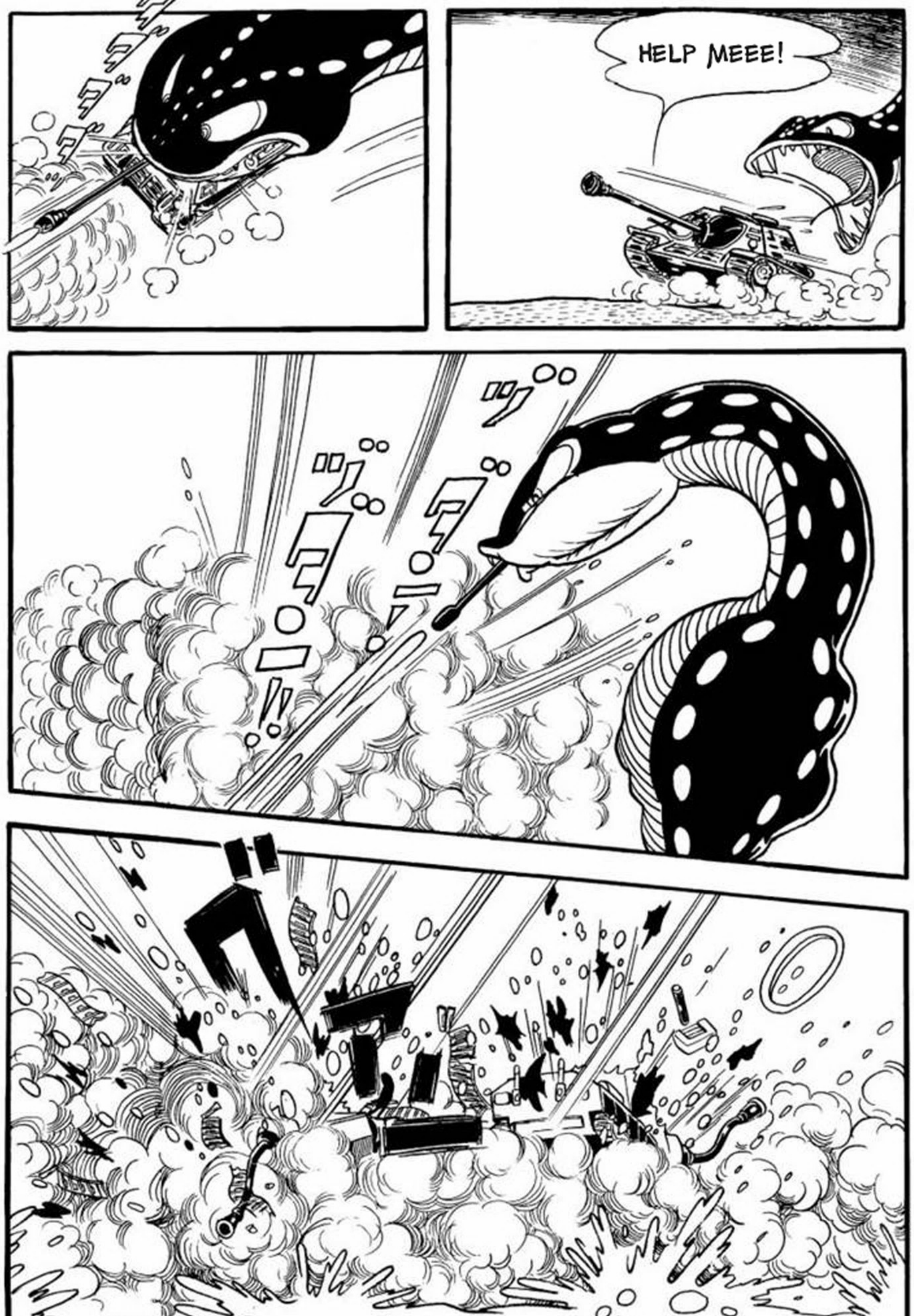

WOW! IT'S
A GIANT SNAKE!
BIGGER THAN
AN ELEPHANT

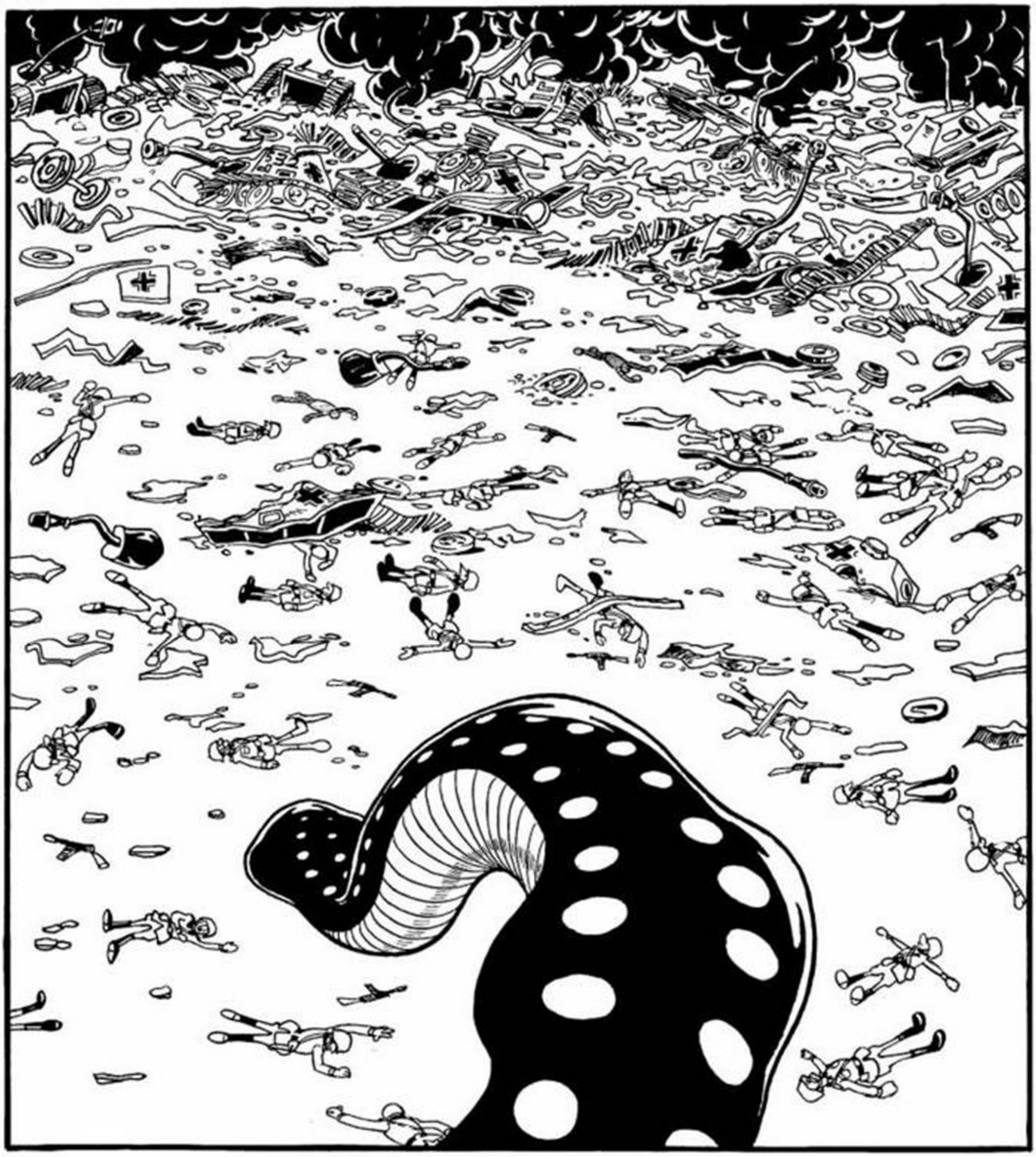

RUN
AWAY!
CALL HQ AND
REQUEST
WHAT TO
DO WITH
THIS SITUATION


YOU CALL HQ!!
GYAAA!

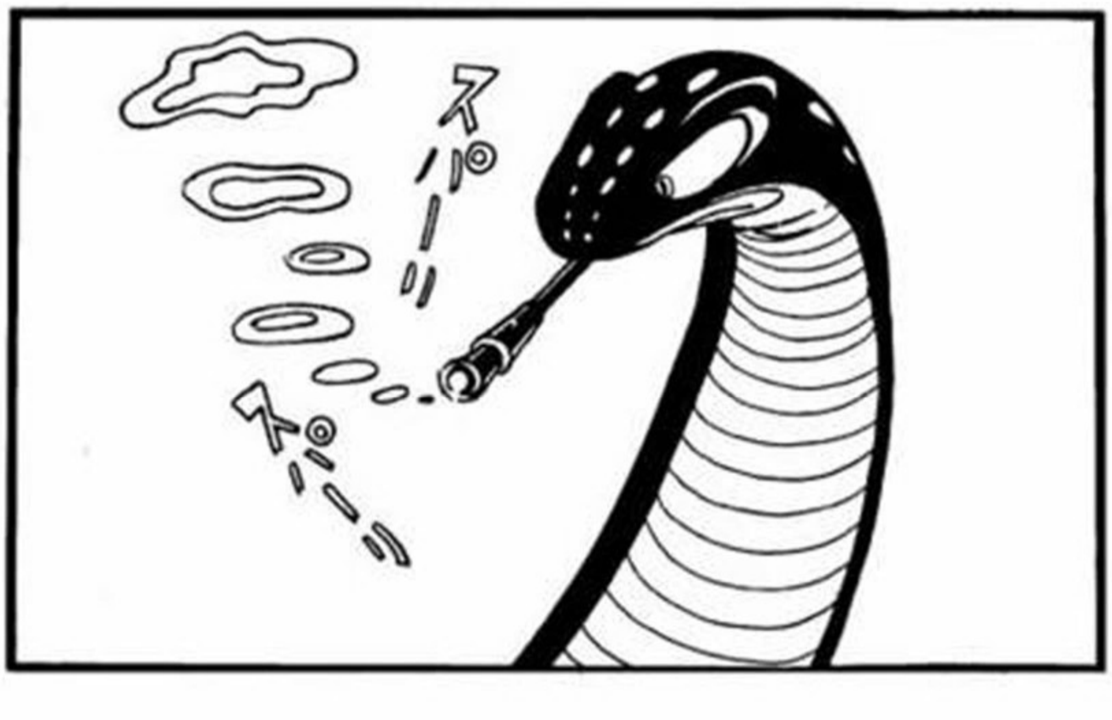

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YIAAAAA

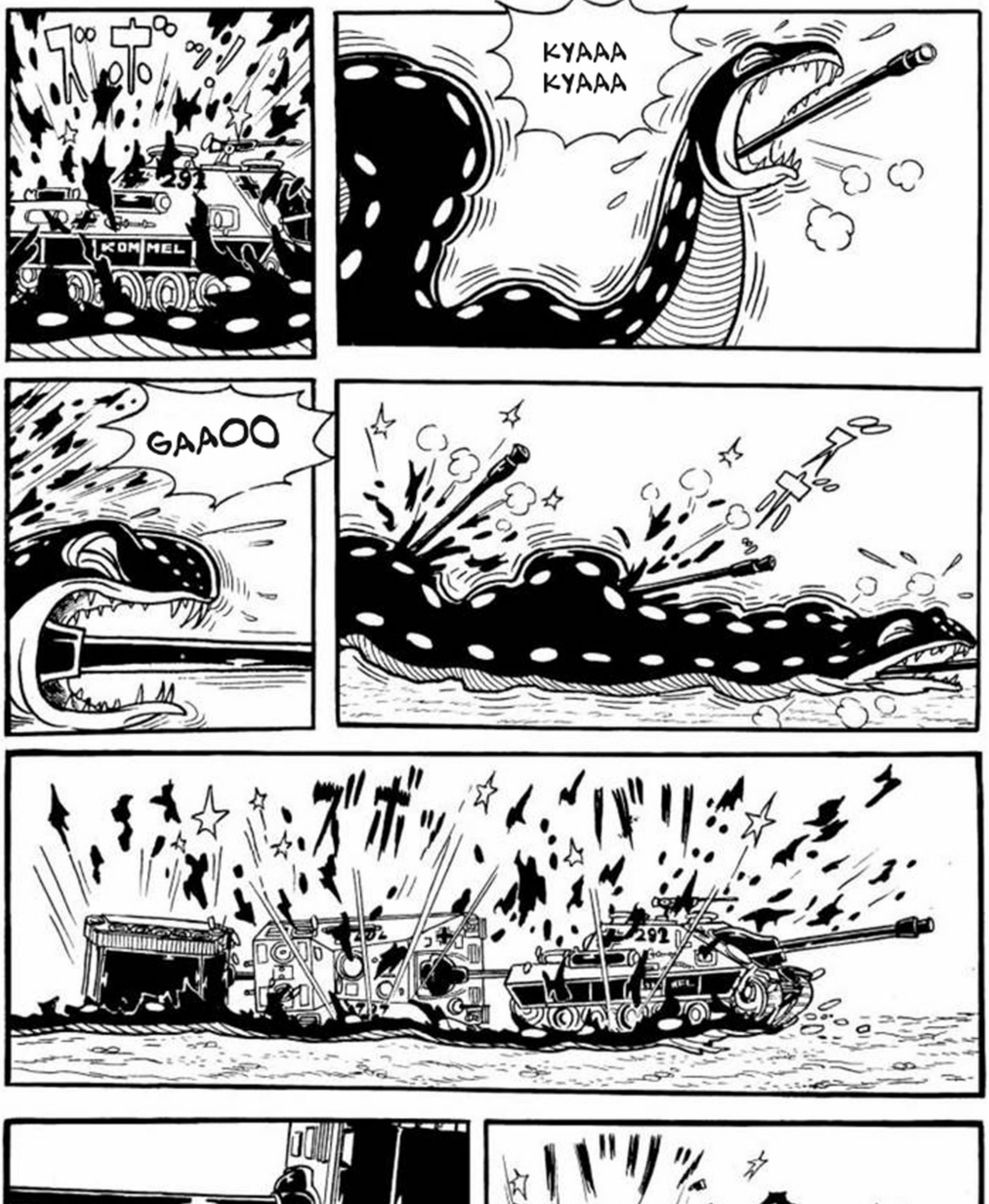

GYAA!
725
536
286
ROMMEL
534

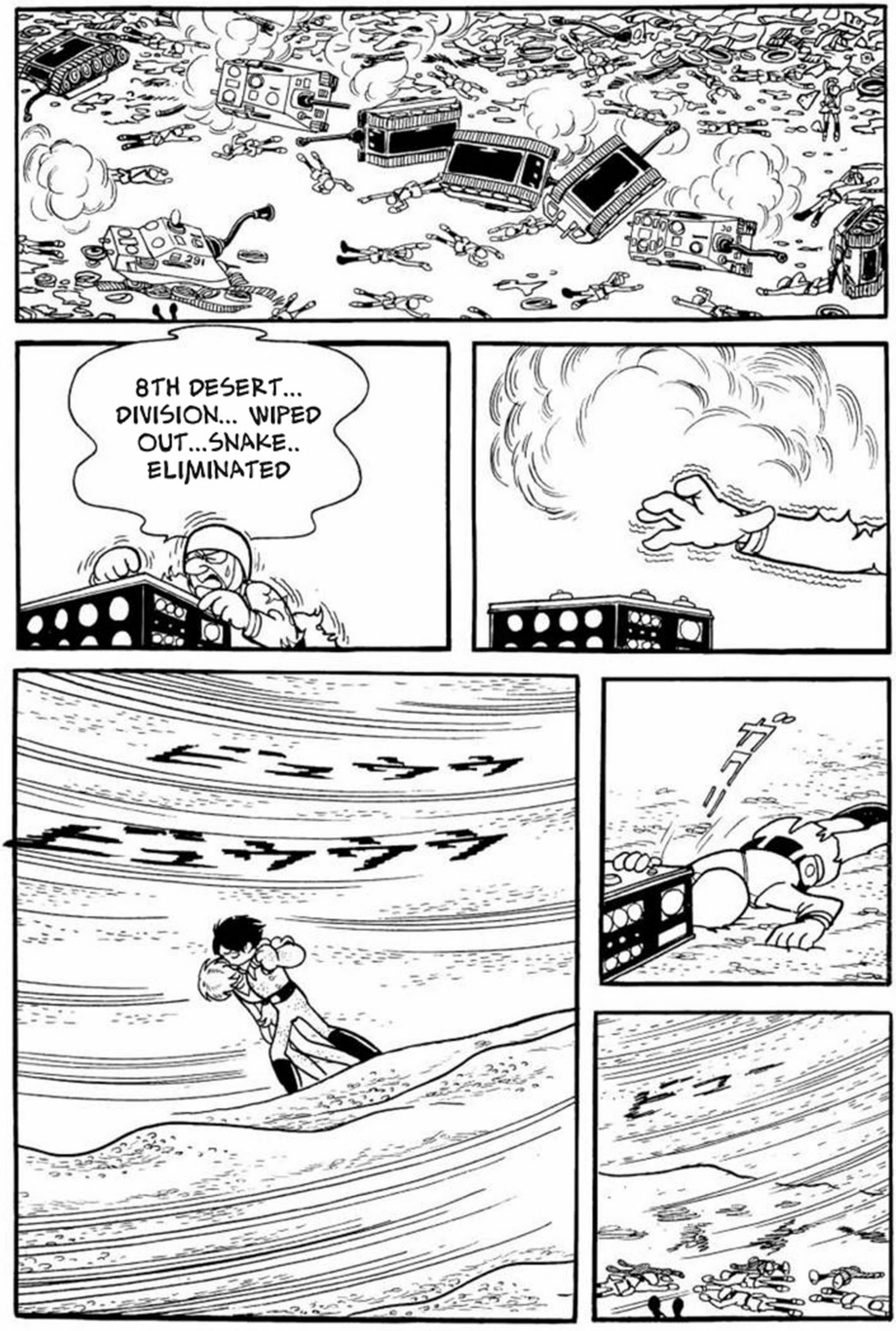

HELP MEEE!

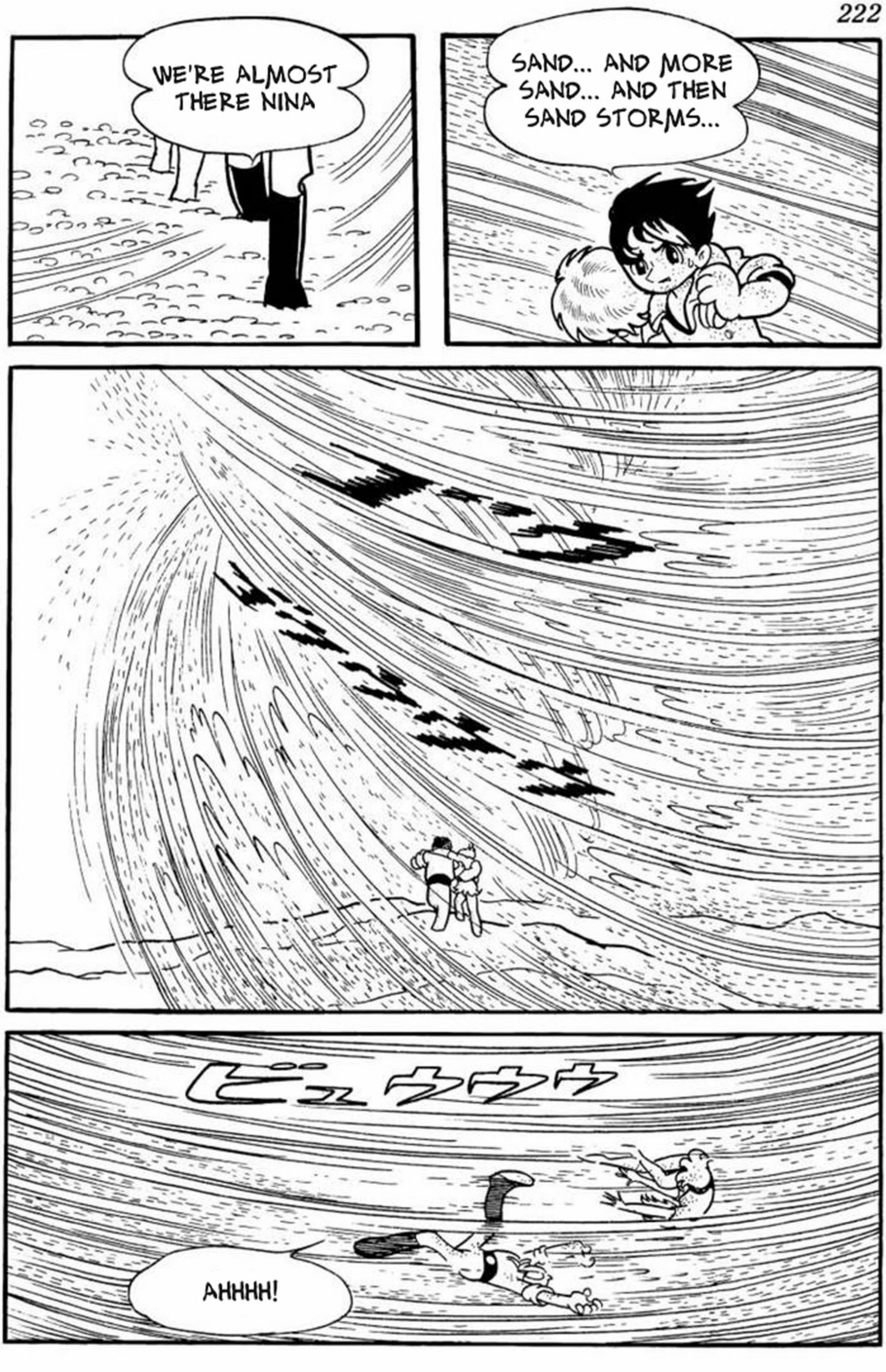



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KYAAA
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GAAOO


8TH DESERT... DIVISION... WIPED OUT...SNAKE.. ELIMINATED


WE'RE ALMOST THERE NINA
SAND... AND MORE SAND... AND THEN SAND STORMS...
ピュウウウ
AHHHH!



BIG X BOOK 1 - END